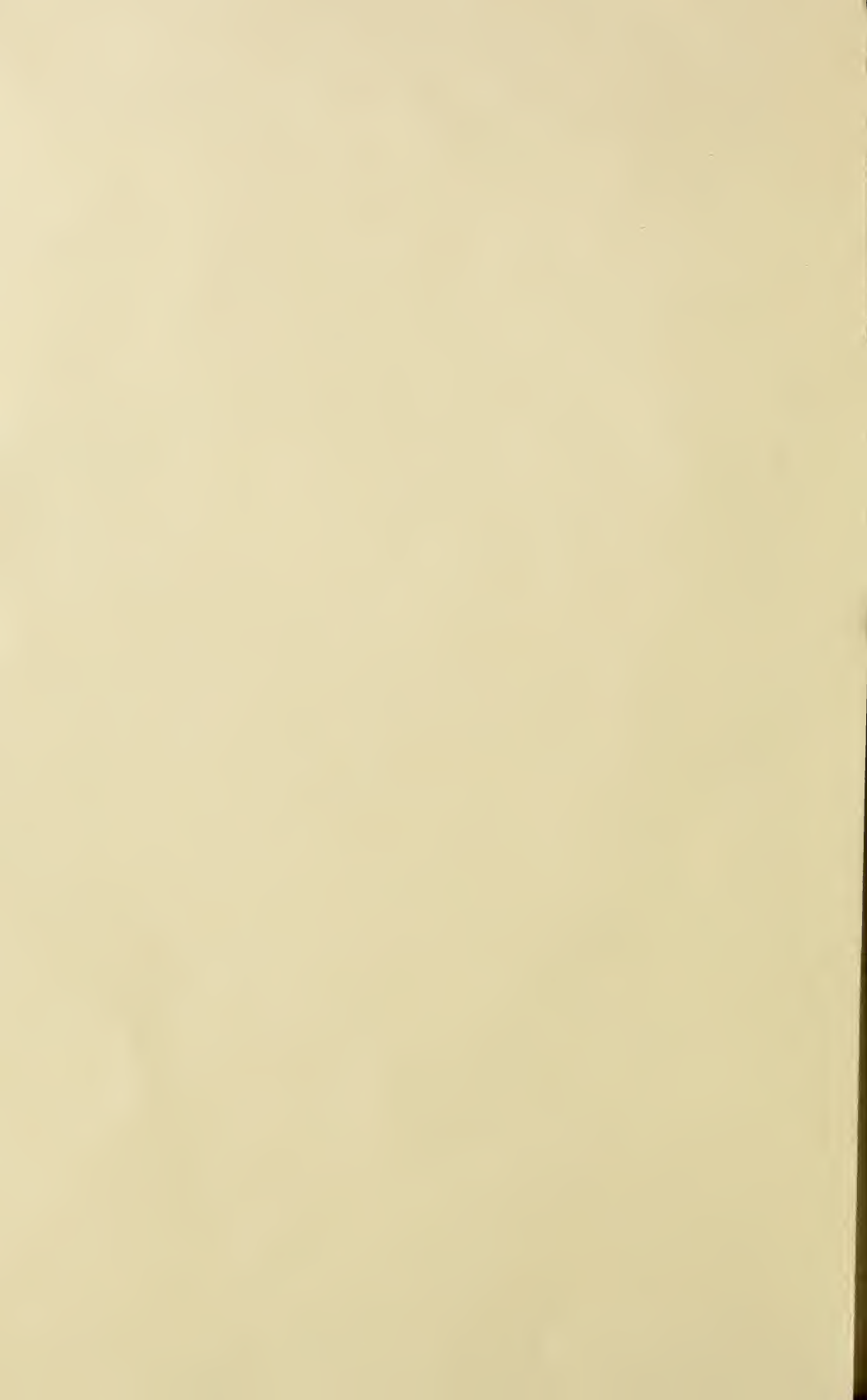
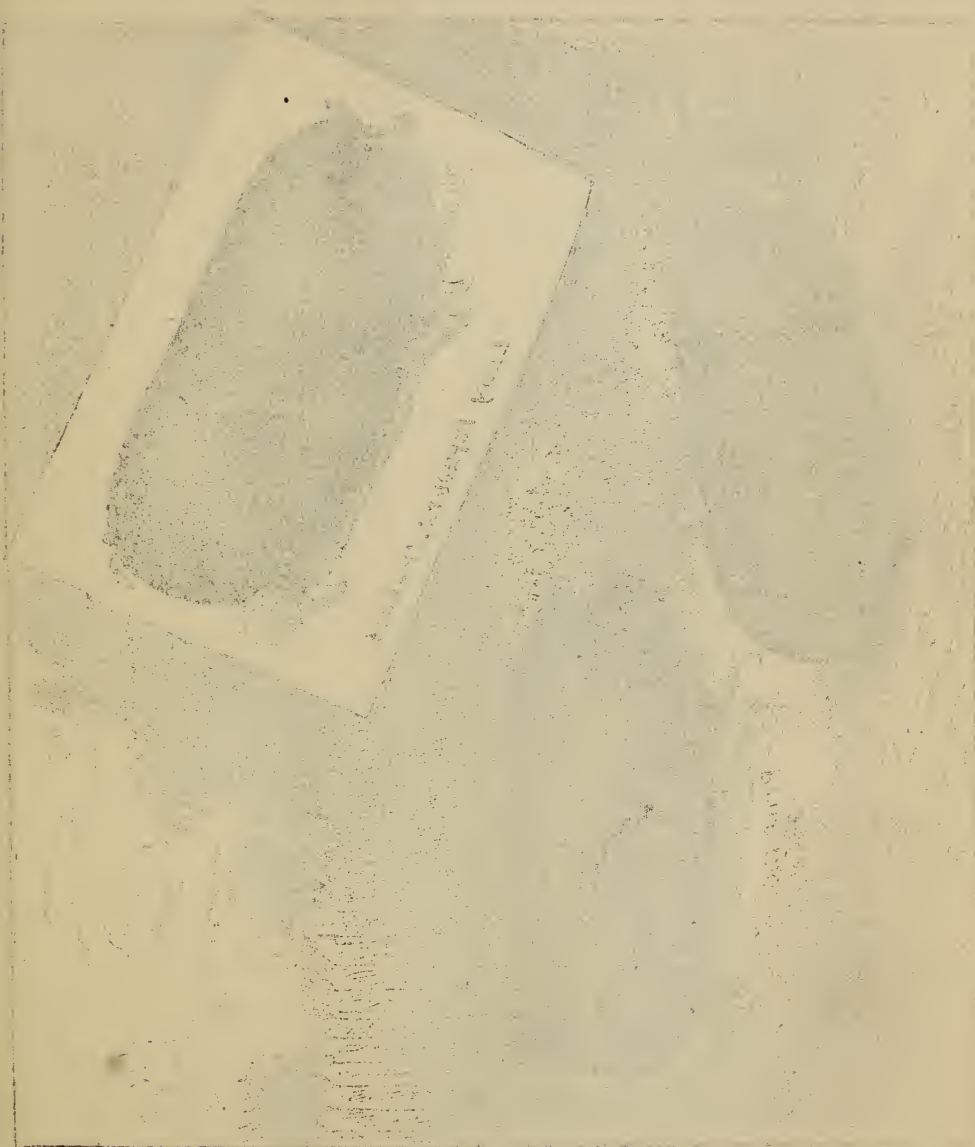
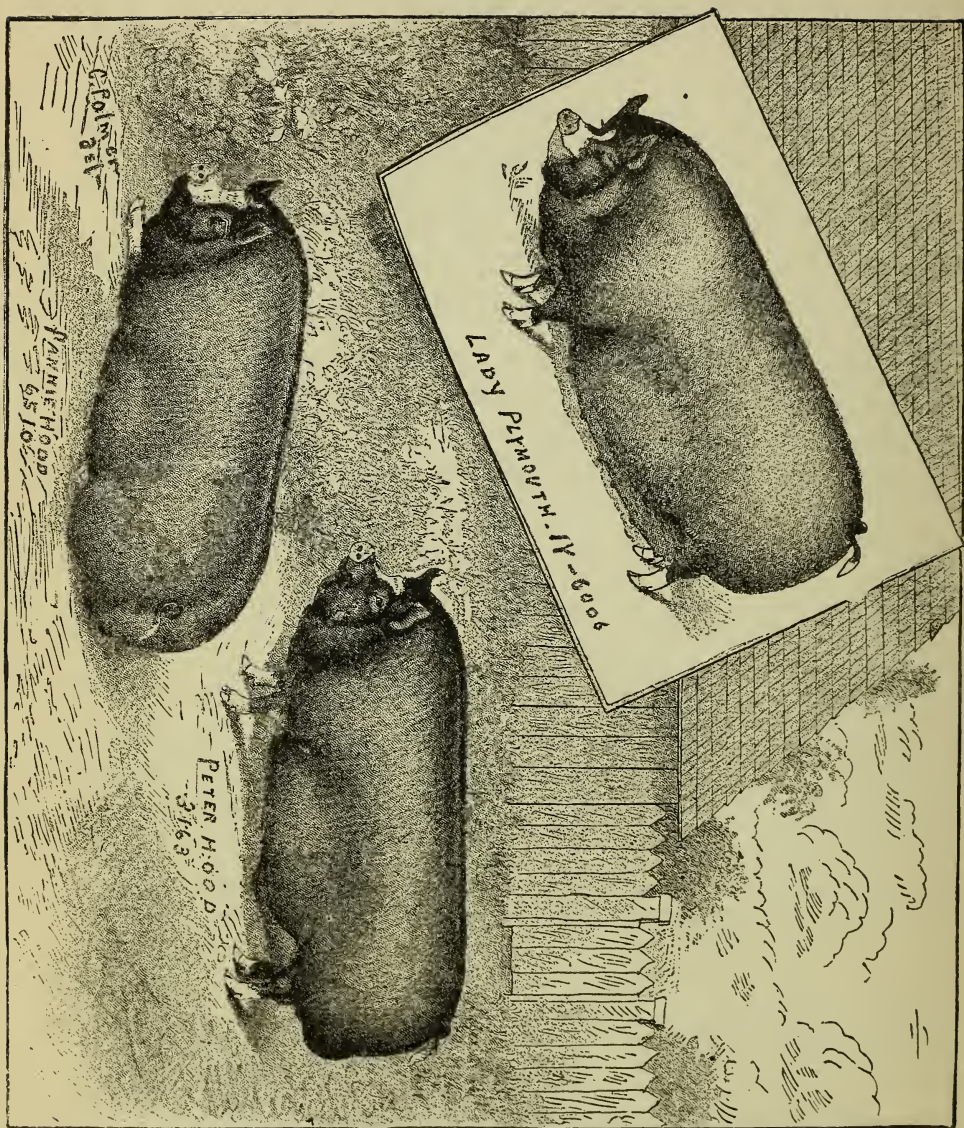


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THE MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

Vol. XVIII. BALTIMORE, OCTOBER, 1881.

No. 10.

Our London Letter.

(Regular Correspondence.)

LONDON, ENG., Aug. 8,-81.

There has been a continuance of lower temperature throughout the past week, which may be correctly stated as 30 degrees Fahrenheit below the mean of the reading, during the passage of the wave of heat which passed over the southern portion of the united kingdom. In connection with this lower range of temperature there have been general rains and local thunderstorms of greater or lesser severity; but, as a rule, the wheats are not thick enough, and do not carry a sufficient bulk of straw to sustain serious damage from storms. With regard to the lower temperature in England, the northern counties may be benefited thereby, but for the rest the delay can scarcely be credited with advantage, certainly not so far as the wheats are concerned. The cereal crops are too far advanced toward maturity to be benefited by a spell of "growing" weather, because their growing season has passed. The appearance of mildew in widely separated localities must be recorded as a simple fact, but it is difficult to understand the presence of this, a parasitical fungus in such a season as the present, except on the cold, undrained land.

Wherever mildew is now to be seen, there must, of necessity have been red rust, unnoticed or unrecorded. The abnormally rapid maturing of the wheat plant may possibly account for an oversight of this kind; but the fact remains that there has been no mention of rust, whilst there is

now certain evidence of mildew. With regard to the prevalence of red maggot, there are, as yet, no data; in certain localities it is known to be very prevalent, whilst in others has not been noticed. Wheats, which are vaguely spoken of as "blighted" may have been cut down by June frosts, or hastened into premature ripeness by July heat, the term being too vague to carry with any definite weight.

In France the yield of the new crop is spoken of with more or less dissatisfaction. In the Southern and South-eastern provinces, where the wheats were considered moderate, the result proves them to have been bad, and in the south-western provinces where the wheats were considered to be good, they turn out only moderate. In the central provinces there is no complaint but less satisfaction; in the western provinces an abundant harvest is still hoped for, whilst in the north-easterly provinces, half a crop is being talked about.

In Germany the weather has been favorable for harvest operations; the trade for breadstuffs has been quiet but prices have been maintained.

In Hungary, harvest has been in active progress, with fine weather, and the wheat crops are reported as being a fair average in quantity and over average as to quality.

In South Russia the wheat crop is well reported and in the Taganrog district there will be an abundant crop of wheat of quite exceptional quality.

In Romania reports are varied in their tenor; the weather has been hot and harvest work is in full progress. In Wallachia, the crops are said to be light.

In Italy, complaints of the yield of the wheat crop are quite general, and it is thought that the season of excessive heat has brought the grain crop into premature ripeness.

Farm Work for October.

Owing to the long, dry and hot spell of weather during the latter part of July and through all August, which prevailed in most sections of the country, there has been an immense loss in crops then growing, particularly have the corn and tobacco crops been shortened, some estimate one-half, and others say three-fourths, in such sections where the drought was most severe. It should have admonished every farmer to take double care of what was left and to save all that nothing should be wasted. The corn crop should have been secured in shocks before this number of the FARMER reaches our readers, and nearly all the tobacco has been housed, we suppose, leaving the fields ready for preparation for wheat that is to be sown.

So favorable has the summer been for threshing and getting the grain crops ready for market, we presume that work is now pretty well off hand.

As the market prices have been slowly rising, under favorable reports of the European crops and the certainty of diminished products of grain of every sort in this country notwithstanding, the largely increased area sown last fall, the farmers being encouraged to do so by the immense yield of grain grown in 1880, and the fair prices it brought because of the great foreign demand, we presume a large portion of our farmers have held over for better prices and kept their wheat at least in their granaries. For once we think such a policy will be a paying one, because we cannot see anything by which wheat can be lower, and we can see every prospect of its rising in price before next spring. Corn must be high and also pork. Thus we trust that if the farmers have in the aggregate less quantity, they may have the deficiency made up to them in the increased value of the product. Of tobacco there is not the same confidence in such promise for that oppressed crop seems to keep below a living price, whether it be a large or small crop, a good or a bad crop. There is a mystery about it we are unable to unravel. It is ground down with exorbitant taxes at home, immense duties abroad, and beset at all stages of its growth with insect enemies or weather disasters. If plants are abundant and seasons for planting abundant, as was the case this year, then terrible storms or long droughts and the old enemy—the worm—come in one place or another and nearly destroy it. We see but one way to get over inevitable ruin if planters will persist in making it a

specialty, and that is to plant less land, make that so fertile that one acre will yield more pounds than three did formerly, take more pains in its cultivation and curing, and putting on the market. Growing more grass, raising or fattening more stock, enriching the land and diversifying the products of the farm. We will revert to this subject again.

Potatoes.

Gather your potatoes the latter portion of this month, and send to market before the glut from the North comes in, if you intend to sell them the present year. A potato-digging plow is a great aid in securing a crop of potatoes, especially if the land be clear of weeds and grass, and the crop be a fair one.

Hen-Houses.

See they are clean, and free from vermin; dry earth covering the floors, or slacked lime or ashes, so as to compost the droppings, for your poor spots in your corn field next year.

Grapes

May be preserved by being packed in dry oak sawdust. Pick all unripe or defective grapes from the bunches before packing.

Plaster.

Sow plaster over the newly sown small grain crops, not that we think it of itself will materially directly help the wheat or rye, but we believe it will fix, or prevent the escape of the ammonia which will be evolved from the manure, fertilizer or decaying vegetable matter in the land. By its means this valuable aid to the growth of grain crops would be retained until the plants could take it up and appropriate it to their uses. Of late years too little use has been made of this mineral fertilizer, which in many instances has effected wonderful results in its application to crops on soils, and in seasons which gave it opportunity to show its power. On light soils its use is indispensable to the growth of all broad-leaved plants, such as tobacco, cabbage, corn, clover, &c.

Farm Utensils.

Not in actual daily use should be cleaned, and put away under dry cover, and such as want repair placed by themselves for thorough overhauling and put in order at the first spare moment, that it be not neglected until next year, when they will be required for immediate use, and at that critical moment be found to be useless.

Cider.

This is the month most favorable to cider-making. Cider is a time-honored, healthy *temperance* drink, and when well made, a delightful beverage. There are many recipes for making

cider. We have found the following process to be very satisfactory: clean sweet barrels—new are best; sound, clean, mellow, or well ripened apples, Harrison or Smith's cider, Red-streak, Crab, or other good cider apples. Grind, press and put in the barrel at once. By leaving it in the must a day or two it adds to the color, but we think injures the flavor. Fill the barrel full, keep some over, to keep the barrel always full that the pomace may run out as fermentation progresses. When fermentation subsides, draw it off into a clean barrel, which is to be filled with cider of the same kind and making; this is passed through a clean cloth to drain off all sediment. Let it stand a few days that fermentation may go on. Then drain it off again into a clean barrel, add two pounds of mustard seed, bung tight and put it in a cool place. It will keep sweet for a long time. Such cider will bring \$20 per barrel. Put up in kegs it sells for higher prices.—Last year it brought \$5 for a five-gallon keg. Cider thus made is better to the taste, is sparkling and tempting and more healthful than the champagne made of turnip juice and poisonous drugs.

Apples.

Those who have orchards would do well to bestow time and care in picking and storing their apples, both for a home winter luxury, and as a source of profit by the sale of them during winter, when they bring high prices. We recommend to all who desire to save their winter apples to heed the following directions of Kendrick, who is a noted authority on such matters. He says "they should be suffered to hang on the trees to as late a period as possible in October, or till hard frosts have loosened the stalks, and they are in danger of being blown down by the winds. Such as have already fallen are carefully gathered and inspected, and the best put up for early wintering. They are carefully gathered by hand from the tree, and as carefully laid in baskets. New, tight flour barrels from the bakers are generally preferred; the baskets being filled are cautiously lowered into the barrels, and reversed. The barrels being quite filled are gently shaken, and the head is gently pressed down to its place, and secured. It is observed that this pressure never causes them to rot *next to the head*, and is necessary, as they are never allowed to rattle in removing. No soft straw or shavings are admitted at the end; it causes mustiness and decay. They are next carefully placed in wagons, and placed on the *bilge* and laid in courses in a cool, airy situation on the north side of buildings

near the cellar, protected by a covering of boards, so placed as to defend them from the rain and sun, while the air is not excluded at the sides. A chill does not injure them, but when extreme cold weather comes on, and they are in imminent danger of being frozen, whether by night or by day, they are rolled into a cool, airy, dry cellar, with openings on the north side, that the cold air may have free access; they are laid in tiers, and the cellar is in due time closed and rendered secure from frost. The barrels are never tumbled or placed on the head. Apples keep best when grown in dry seasons and on dry soils. If fruit is gathered *late*, and according to the above directions, repacking is unnecessary; it is even ruinous, and should on no account be practiced till the barrel is open for use."

Stock.

The year has been so warm and dry that unless stock have had food in addition to pasture they will go into winter quarters in very bad condition. Therefore we suppose that they have had already some extra feeding, if not, it should be commenced at once. All store beasts should have a good feed once a day at least of corn fodder or vegetables. Milch cows should be fed regularly at night and morning with corn fodder, pumpkins or turnip tops, &c., and 4 or 5 quarts of bran and corn meal mixed, 3 quarts of bran and 1 of corn meal, or 2 or 3 lbs. of cotton seed meal at each feed. Perhaps less of the latter might do. Beef cattle ought to be well fed and warmly housed.

Sheep.—See to your sheep and let them not fall off in flesh. Keep the dogs away, with the use of plenty of bells, strychnine, and shot guns. Increase your flock in numbers and in the size of carcass and yield of wool. The two last acquisitions can be made easily by breeding from rams of the purest blood of the large breeds, such as Southdowns, Oxfords, Cotswolds, &c. See that the weanling colts and calves are well fed and cared for, and have a good pasture; the crab grass in the corn fields with the corn blades and tender ears of corn makes a good pasture—that they may get well over their weaning before winter comes on. Every thing depends on the growth of the young animal the first year. They are tender and should have comfortable shelters and plenty of food adapted to the formation of bone, muscle and flesh. Hay, or corn fodder, ground oats and corn, bran, &c., with salt and occasionally ashes with the salt. Vary the food often—animals like, indeed require, change of diet as much as men do, and they will show in health, spirits and growth how they relish and repay good treatment and judicious management.

Garden Work for October.

There is a good deal of work to be done in the garden this month. One of the chief things to be done is

Setting out Cabbage Plants.—During the first week, certainly before the 15th, select a piece of ground with a dry, loamy soil, protected from the north-west, and cover it three inches deep with well rotted stable manure; spade or plow deep, and rake well. Lay off the land in ridges four inches high with the hoe, one foot from the top of one ridge to the next. These ridges should run east and west, so as to face the north and south respectively. Pat the ridges while you make them, so as to compact the sides. Then set the plants six inches apart on the north sides of the ridges. In November strew long stable manure at the bottom of the ridges for protection and nourishment of the plants during winter. In spring pull down the ridges and work the spaces between the rows; keep the land loose, and as the plants grow, thin them out to two feet apart in the rows, using those cut out for eating as sprouts or collards.

Lettuce.—Set out plants on a warm border, and protect with brush before winter sets in.

Spinach.—Thin out to five inches apart in the rows; keep the soil well stirred and free from weeds—let it make all the growth it can.

Celery.—Continue to blanch by earthing up when dry, and water freely occasionally, should not the rains be sufficient.

Endive.—Tie up or cover with garden pots, for blanching and making it crisp and tender.

Onions.—designed for next year may now be set out.

Shallots, Garlic, Chive.—Set out these.

Rhubarb and Sea Kale.—Sow seeds of these.

Raspberries, Gooseberries and Currants.—Plant out these three feet apart by four.

Seeds.—Such seeds as ripen must be carefully saved.

Lima and other Pole Peas.—Gather these as they ripen, and dry on boards in the shade before being put in bags or barrels; do the same with dwarf beans, peas, black beans and black-eyed peas, which two last named make delicious soups, and the common field peas are fine to eat with pork in winter time.

Manure.—Get in a supply of manure, woods' earth turf and rakings from the garden beds; make a compost heap, sprinkling the layers with

plaster, salt and ashes. Make it in a dish form, for the reception of rain and the weekly yield of soap-suds, and by spring you will have a mine of fertility for garden operations.

Asparagus Beds.—Clean the haulm off, manure and work them; rake smooth, and give a dressing of ashes and salt.

Strawberries.—Clean the strawberry beds of all weeds and grass. Lighten up the soil and mulch, covering all the ground between the plants with leaves, spread over with a coat of woods' earth, mixed with unleached or leached ashes and plaster, thick enough to keep the leaves from blowing away. New beds may yet be set out, if the ground be well prepared and pains taken in planting and watering well if the weather prove dry.

Corn Salad and Dwarf Kale.—These may yet be sown to furnish salad and greens next spring. Corn salad is one of the nicest and most enjoyable salads to be found in the spring. It is especially nice with spring lamb.

Cauliflowers.—These are perfecting their flowers, and require a plenty of moisture; turn the leaves over the flowers to protect them from the sun, as also from heavy rains. The heads will thus become whiter and more tempting in looks.

Brocoli.—The same remarks apply to brocoli, which is nearly as great a delicacy as cauliflower, and is easier grown, and more certain in this climate to head well.

Cold Frames.—Prepare these and set lettuce plants in them, to come in from December to February, and through the spring.

Horse-Radish.—When you dig this, trim off the small side roots, and cut off the small end of the tap root, and plant out a new bed. Those left over after planting, tie in small bunches, bury like potatoes, and raise a small mound of earth over them, to keep until next spring, when they can be planted between the early cabbage plants, and will, without detriment to the cabbage, produce next October a large crop. Horse-radish sells always at a remunerative price to the gardener. It is in demand, and but few crops pay better per acre.

WE notice the following in an exchange: Mr. G. B. Haverer, Foreman N. Y. & N. H. S. B. Co., suffered for eight days with terrible pain in the back, almost to distraction, until he heard of and used St. Jacobs Oil, one bottle of which cured him completely.—*Des Moines Iowa State Register.*

Is Barb Wire Dangerous.

IT IS NOT, where wire—instead of metal or knife-blade cutting points—is used for the barbs. We base our reply upon a large experience in manufacturing and supplying the trade with barb wire, thereby occupying a position to learn of any damage caused, extending all through the United States. Our experience will justify us in stating as an absolute fact, that no more injury is done to stock by the use of wire barb, than by the use of any other common kind of fence. We have yet to learn the loss of a single head of stock caused by the Iowa barb. We attribute this fact to these reasons:

1. It is a four pointed wire barb, with barbs standing at right angles, and therefore always presents a point.
2. It is the only one locked between the two wires, and the barbs cannot work or slip together.
3. It is a wire barb, and pricks instead of cutting the flesh.

NUMBER OF WIRES.

Although fences are sometimes made of two wires, to fence against cattle only, we recommend not less than three, and as many more as desirable. Five wires make a good fence—such is used by nearly all the railroad companies.

DISTANCE APART OF WIRES.

The following are the distances apart at which the wires are generally placed:
Two-wire fence, 1st wire 22 inches, 2nd wire 44 inches from the ground.

Three-wire fence, 1st wire 16 inches, 2d wire 30 inches, 3rd wire 48 inches from the ground.

Four-wire fence, 1st wire 12 inches, 2d wire 24 inches, 3rd wire 36 inches, 4th wire 48 inches from the ground.

Five-wire fence, 1st wire 8 inches, 2nd wire 15 inches, 3rd wire 24 inches, 4th wire 36 inches, 5th wire 48 inches from the ground.

THE LEGAL FENCE.

The height of the legal fence varies as follows:

Four feet high in Maine, New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Delaware and Idaho.

Four and a half feet high in Vermont, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Maryland, West Virginia, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin,

Minnesota, Iowa, Tennessee, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, Oregon, Arizona, Nevada, Montana, Dakota and Utah.

Five feet in Pennsylvania, Virginia, Missouri, Kentucky, North Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Mississippi, Texas, Arkansas, California and Washington and Wyoming Territories.

Some Facts and Figures about Texas.

Texas is as large as Maine, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Ohio and Illinois, and 6000 square miles over, containing 175,587,840 acres. At the ratio of population of Massachusetts it can support the present population of the United States. Its population is 1,592,574 by the last census, and it is receiving immigrants at the rate of more than 1000 daily. It is the first cattle raising State in the Union, having about 5,000,000 head. It is second in the number of horses, with about 1,000,000 head. It is third in sheep, with about 5,000,000 head. Total value of its live stock, excluding hogs, more than \$71,000,000. For the year ending August 31, 1881, the sales of its products were: Cotton, 1,260,247 bales; value, \$56,711,115; wool, 20,671,839 pounds; value, \$4,754,522; hides, 12,262,052 pounds; value, \$1,471,446; cattle, 781,874 head; value, \$15,923,018; horses and mules, 28,175 head; value, \$1,408,750; grain, 39,665 car loads; value, \$6,941,375; lumber, 278,609,542 feet; value, 5,572,191; cotton seed cake and oil, \$1,242,315; miscellaneous products, \$1,344,728; sugar and molasses, \$591,470; total value, \$95,960,930; against \$57,820,141, 1878-9. Add to this the \$20,000,000 expended by railways and we have a grand total of \$115,960,930 as the sum derived by Texas to the credit of its agricultural and industrial resources—double that of 1878-79.

Its wheat weighs from 62 to 68 pounds per bushel, and stands shipment over the tropics better than any other. The average yield of oats is 37 bushels per acre; 60 and 80 bushels are not unfrequently obtained on the best soils. Vegetables of all kinds, fruits, melons and berries grow to great perfection. There is on exhibition in New York city, a Texas raised pear, weighing 32 ounces.

Land is cheap and can be obtained on easy terms. A home, once paid for cannot be taken from the citizen by forced sale, but is secured to his family.

Mechanics' wages rate from \$2.00 to \$4.50 per day; farm hands, with board, \$10 to \$15 per month; railway laborers, from \$1.25 to \$1.75 per day, and they are in great demand. Spanish ponies bring \$10 to \$30; large American horses and mules, \$75 to \$50; beeves, \$15 to \$20; milk cows and calves \$12 to \$20. Corn is worth 40 to 50 cents per bushel; oats, 30 to 40 cents; wheat 75 cents to \$1.15, according to quality and convenience for shipment for shipment. Out-door work is done the year round. Stock ought to have some food in the winter, but they are usually raised without feeding a pound of anything.

More than 150,000 bales of cotton were lost in the fields last year for want of pickers. Farmers are complaining now that they cannot get help to gather the present crop. Railroads are sending to New York and elsewhere for labor to build their roads. They spent during the year ending August 31, 1881, about \$20,000,000, completing in that year 1,634 miles of road, and are now building ten miles per day.

The climate tempered by the trade-winds is delightful. Most of the State is 500 to 2000 feet above the sea. As a health resort Western Texas rivals California and Colorado.

The Importance of Agriculture in the United States as shown by the following Statements.

According to the last report of the Commissioner of Agriculture it appears that 7,600,000 persons in the United States are engaged in agricultural pursuits. The total value of farms and implements is \$13,461,200,433, or two thirds of the productive wealth of the nation. The value of farm products and live stock for 1878 was \$3,000,000,000 against \$2,800,000,000 of mining and manufacturing products. Thus it appears that not only a majority of the adult male population of the United States is engaged in Agriculture, but more than one-half the wealth of the nation is invested in that industry. There are also 2,900,000 persons engaged in mining and manufacturing, whose interests are closely allied with those of the agriculturist.

Three Years Trial of Ensilage.

[From a paper on the subject, read before the Farmers, Club of the American Institute, by O. B. Potter.]

"I have practiced this system for three years; have applied it to common fodder corn, red clover, pearl millet, West India millet or Guinea corn, green rye, green oats and mixed grasses in which clover predominates, with entire success in every case. The last year I preserved about one hundred tons. I have never lost any fodder; whatever, thus preserved, but during the whole experiment it has been perfectly preserved and better than when fed fresh and green from the field. As the first fermentation is passed in the process, the food thus preserved has no tendency either to scour or bloat the animals fed. It is eaten up eagerly and clean, leaf and stalk, without any loss whatever, and stock thus fed exhibits the highest condition of health and thrift. For milch cows, to which I have mainly fed it, it surpasses any other food I have ever tried. It increases the quantity of milk much beyond dried food, and the quality better than that produced from the same fodder when fed fresh and green from the field. This is owing, I think, to the fact that it does not scour or bloat the animals, while it retains its natural juices and nutritious qualities in the most digestible form. The process is not unlike that by which sourkraut is made, and so much is food thus preserved improved, especially for milch cows, that I think no one who understands the process and has facilities for practicing it would, after trial, continue the present method of soiling or feeding crops, fresh cut from the field."

Mr. Joseph Harris, in his *Talks on Manures*, says that we can make our lands poor by growing clover and selling it; or we can make them rich by growing clover and feeding it out on the farm. Drain where needed, cultivate thoroughly so as to develop the latent plant food in the soil, and then grow clover to take up and organize this plant food. This is how to make land rich by growing clover. Draining and cultivating furnishes food for clover, and the clover takes it up and prepares it in best shape for other crops. The clover does not create plant food, but merely saves it.

German Carp.

We are glad to see that this excellent fish is becoming popular in the South. There are a great many farms in Maryland and other Southern States where this food product can be raised to great advantage and at little cost in preparing the pond. These ponds can generally be formed where the ground is otherwise useless, and once well made and stocked properly, would become proportionately the most valuable part of the farm, yielding profit, luxury, and much pleasure. Mr. Henderson, Commissioner of Agriculture, for Georgia, says in his Quarterly Report for July, 1881:—

“The unprecedented success thus far experienced with German Carp, now under trial in Georgia for the second year has induced many to construct ponds especially designed for their reception. Numerous applications for fry for stocking ponds are already on file in this office and others being daily received. It is hoped that the supply for distribution this fall will be equal to the demand. Those who will wish carp in the fall, should make their applications at an early day, in order that an idea may be formed of the aggregate demand. The supply must come from the U. S. Commissioner, Hon. Spencer F. Baird, Washington, D. C., who will wish to know early in the fall the demand in the different States.

Those who contemplate constructing ponds can be supplied with instructions from this office on request. The fact that the carp spawn, in Georgia, one year younger than at Washington, D. C., has stimulated the interest already excited in their culture. If the carp do half as well in the future as they have thus far, their value as an acquisition to the food supply of the State will be difficult to estimate. Those who have suitable water and locations for ponds should prepare at once to commence their culture.”

—♦♦♦—
WOMAN that have been bedridden for years, have been entirely cured of female weakness by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Send to Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, 233 Western Avenue, Lynn, Mass., for pamphlets,

HORTICULTURAL.

Grape Wine.

As the season for making wine is now at hand, for the benefit of our readers who may wish to make their own wine, we here give the most approved mode of making it from the pure juice of the grape:

The grapes should be ripe when gathered, the green ones picked from the bunches, and the ripe ones mashed which should be done when the weather is moderately warm and dry. The mashed grapes should be put in clean open tubs to ferment, which may take thirty-six hours or more. The juice should then be pressed from the pomace and put in a well prepared cask and placed in a moderate temperature, not below 70°, to complete the fermentation. In this process the cask should not be quite full or the fermentation will throw out the juice. A sufficient quantity should be fermented in another vessel to fill the cask when the fermentation is completed. This done, the cask should be bunged up and moved to a still cooler place. While the fermentation is going on, carbonic acid gas is being thrown off, which may be told by placing the nose to the bunghole, and the ear will detect the fermenting murmur. During this fermentation the gas is being thrown off and no air can get in, but as soon as the gas ceases to escape, air will be absorbed and the wine spoil. At this period of the process, therefore, a careful watch should be kept, the bung being loosely put in, so that any accumulating gas may escape and thus prevent the bursting of the cask. As soon as the fermentation is completely over, the bung should be driven in tight, so as to actually exclude the air. The wine may then remain undisturbed till it becomes perfectly clear, when it should be racked off in another clean cask, and again racked off in the spring to rid it as far as practicable of any impurity. In the summer it will undergo another slight fermentation, and will not be fit to bottle until in the fall. Great care should be taken to have all the vessels used in the process clean and sweet. As soon as a cask is emptied, it should be well washed out, sulphured and bunged up, and, if not immediately refilled, sulphured again when going to use. In making this

class of wine, it would be well to have a saccharometer to test the amount of sugar the juice contained as soon as the grapes are mashed, that of the best wine running up to between 80 and 85 degrees, although the juice of the Concord grape will often be found to be below 70. In such cases, as indeed in most cases, it were well to add a little of the best clarified sugar.

The above is the process of making wine from the pure juice of the grape—that class of wine being universally allowed to be the best. Yet, as quantity as well as quality is often desirable, we here give a mode of wine-making which has given general satisfaction to all who have tried it: To every gallon of pure grape juice add two gallons of water, in which the pomace of the grapes, after expression, has been thoroughly washed—each gallon of pure juice then representing three gallons of wine. To each gallon of the mixture add three pounds of good, well-flavored sugar, stirring the latter, until thoroughly dissolved, when put in a moderately cool place to ferment, keeping the vessel full by adding from time to time, as needed, some of the same mixture, reserved for the purpose. When the fermentation is nearly complete, bung up tightly. After a few months the wine should be gently drawn off into a clean, fresh vessel or old wine cask. The wine thus made will, after a year or so, become exceedingly fine, although the taste might appear to be too sweet for some, yet the aroma is so completely preserved that no one would suppose that any water had been used in the process of making. It may not be known to all that the grapes raised in this country do not contain sufficient saccharine matter to make alcohol enough to prevent a second or acetous fermentation, producing vinegar, hence the necessity for the additional sugar. *Baltimore Sun.*

EMINENT PHYSICIANS—are prescribing that tried and true remedy, Kidney-Wort, for the worst cases of biliousness and constipation, as well as for kidney complaints. There is scarcely a person to be found that will not be greatly benefited by a thorough course of Kidney-Wort every spring. If you feel out of sorts, and don't know why, try a package of Kidney-Wort and you will feel like a new creature. *Indianapolis Sentinel.*

Bermuda Grass.

One must go where a thing is *scarce* or not to be found in order to see it highly prized. Thus, in Georgia, many planters dread the Bermuda grass and take pains to exterminate it. They think it hard to subdue when once it gets a foothold, while they are free to acknowledge its value as a fertilizer and as a cure for washes.

A Grand Gulf (Miss.) correspondent of the *Courier-Journal* roundly asserts that a Bermuda sod will sustain more stock per acre by half than the finest cultivated grass on earth, not excepting the renowned Kentucky blue grass. He quotes the authority of a grazier near Corpus Christi, in Texas, who, having a ten-acre patch of Bermuda, declares it gives more pasturage than any hundred acres of mesquite grass on his ranche.

Our Mississippi friend says that his milk cows and beef cattle keep seal fat on Bermuda alone, and when driven off to the cane-break will invariably find their way back to the Bermuda. That he and his neighbors have cut Bermuda from one and a half to two and a half tons of hay to the acre; and, in fine, for all the purposes of hay, grass and pasturage, there is nothing on earth to compare with it, while, as a fertilizer, everybody will agree that there is nothing equal to it.

On light, sandy soils, covered well with this grass, the sod will thicken every year, even when submitted to an exhaustive pasturage, which no other grass could sustain. Beyond a doubt the Bermuda grass, rightly utilized, will be found one of the most valuable of all Southern products. Applied to our exhausted and washed soils it will reclaim them without labor. It will furnish invaluable pasturage for bees, sheep, goats and hogs. It will supply the country with rich milk and butter, and, when treated with judgment, it is easy of extermination. The shade of grain and pea crops will subdue it fully in a single year.—*Exchange.*

WOMEN that have been pronounced incurable by the best physicians in the country, have been completely cured of female weakness, by the use of Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound. Send to Mrs. Lydia E. Pinkham, 233 Western Avenue, Lynn, Mass., for pamphlets.

The Lackawanna Cauliflower.



This is a very fine, new, early, large heading variety, which was first introduced last spring by Isaac F. Tillinghast, of Lackawanna County, Pa., from whence it derives its name. It is said to be one of the largest of the early varieties. It has been thoroughly tested in the districts of Long Island, where the growing of cauliflower is carried on extensively for market, with the most complete satisfaction. It will probably be offered in most seed catalogues next season, or may be obtained directly of Mr. Tillinghast, the disseminator, whose advertisement may be found in this number.

Gooseberries and Currants.

The soil best adapted to these fruits is a strong, clay loam, well drained; they do well also on drained meadow, and deep, sandy loam, but will not thrive on soils of a dry or gravelly nature, since they require constant moisture in dry weather. The soil should be generously manured, and the bushes are best, planted in November, in rows five feet apart, either way. The bushes should not be more than two years old from cuttings—a good, thrifty, one-year old bush being preferable. The first year after planting, they will not grow very rapidly, and the space between rows may be planted with beets or other root crops. The second year the bushes will begin to spread so rapidly that cultivation by horse power will be difficult, without injury to

the bushes, and in order to keep down weeds, and at the same time to preserve moisture in the soil, a heavy mulch should be applied; this may be of any convenient material at hand, dry leaves, bog hay, sedge, sea weed, tan bark or sawdust; it should be applied in quantity sufficient to keep down the weeds, say two or three inches deep, and will need renewal every year. The scattering weeds that come up through the mulch will readily be pulled up by hand. The bushes need little care, except to dust them with hellebore promptly, on the first appearance of the currant worm, and to watch for him constantly during summer, since a few days' neglect will sometimes give opportunity for this destructive insect to strip most of the foliage from the bushes. The bushes also need some pruning, which may done either in spring or fall, care being taken to give the bush a shapely form, and to remove the old wood when it unthrifty. The manuring every autumn should not be omitted, since these bushes are gross feeders.

Varieties.

The best variety of currant for market without doubt, is the cherry. The Victoria is also an excellent sort, coming later and holding in good condition till late in August. The white currants and black do not take well in market, but the white ones are pleasant for variety, upon the table; and those who like black currant jelly think nothing can compare with it. The old Dutch red currant is a good sort and will bear neglect better than some kinds, but all kinds respond generously to good feeding and mulching, that neglect of these points seems unpardonable.

For jellies, red currants are used mostly, and should be picked before they are over-ripe; the frequent complaint that the "jelly won't jell" being usually due to an over-ripe condition of the fruit.

The best gooseberry by far is the Charles Dowing, larger than Houghton and equally productive. The green gooseberry makes most delicious sauce and preserves, and when ripe is very nice to eat raw. It is always salable in market at about \$2.50 per bushel, sometimes for more; of less importance than the currant, it is however a fruit I should be sorry to part with, and consider fairly profitable to the grower.—W. D. PHILBRICK, in *New England Farmer*,

England and the Turnip.

Few plants are better known to farmers than the turnip, called with affectionate intimacy "neeps" by our Scottish friends, and "tumults" by provincials of North-Humber-land. It was imported by Viscount Townshend in the seventeenth century, and was, according to Ray, the naturalist, first used for feeding kine about 1688, that is at the time of the glorious revolution when James II fled in disguise. We do not remember any mention of the humble and bucolic root in Macaulay, but we venture to say that a greater and more glorious revolution was accomplished by the introduction of the turnip than by a change of dynasty. What would England be without it? If, as we are informed, Lord Vircount Townshend, who represented England at the States General, introduced the turnip, he is worthy of a higher monument than the Duke of York. We owe fresh meat for eight months out of the twelve to his enterprise. We owe our freedom from scurvy, leprosy, and other disagreeable consequences of feeding salt flesh, to him. The wonderful increase in population in these countries would not have been possible without the turnip. The employment of millions hangs upon the turnip. The investment of millions sterling is due to the turnip. The turnip is one of the mainstays in England, and the Lord Chancellor might well sit upon one, instead of a woolsack, were it not a trifle too hard and otherwise incommodious for such a purpose. Poets, statesman and historians are apt to consider the acts of Kings and of Parliaments as of the first importance; but to the vast majority of mankind, who governs is of no matter whatever. Work and food are of more importance, and it is difficult to exaggerate the value of the turnip as a source of both.—*London Agricultural Journal*.

EDWARD T. PAGE, Druggist, writes us from Chicopee Falls, that Mr. Albert Guenther, under Wilds Hotel, has used that remarkable remedy, St. Jacobs Oil, for a severe case of rheumatism, and it cured him as if by magic. He also used it with great success among his horses, in cases of sprains, sores, etc., and it cures every time.—*Springfield, Mass., Republican*.

The Virtues of Mullein.

The Boise City *Republican* says mullein smoked in a pipe will always relieve catarrh, and patiently continued will effect a permanent cure.

It also has the following, which may be worth something to the afflicted:

"I have discovered a remedy for consumption. It has cured a number of cases after they had begun bleeding at the lungs, and the hectic flush was already on the cheek. After trying this remedy to my own satisfaction, I have thought philanthropy required that I should let it be known to the world. It is common mullein, steeped and sweetened with sugar, and drank freely. Young or old plants are good, dried in the shade and kept in clean bags. The medicine must be continued from three to six months, according to the nature of the disease. It is good for the blood vessels also. It strengthens and builds up the system. It makes good blood, and takes way inflammation from the lungs.

In Russia, a few years ago, a mullein plant was received, and it was considered a great curiosity. They called it the "American velvet plant."

SUNFLOWERS.—Sunflower seed oil cake is excellent food for cattle, and possesses superior fattening qualities. The seed are said to be excellent food for sheep, pigs and poultry. It increases the quantity of eggs from poultry fed with these seeds.

The seeds should be planted six inches apart, and a good plowing distance between rows. They need but little cultivation. Every plant should produce one thousand seeds. About three quarters of a ton of sunflower seeds have been produced from an acre; the oil per acre two hundred and seventy-five pounds, or fifteen per cent.; the cake, eighty per cent. About eleven thousand plants may grow on an acre.—*Agriculturist*.

WHITE-FLESHED PEACHES FREE FROM YELLOWS.—It, however, rarely attacks the white-fleshed peaches, as the Alexander, Amsdens' June, or any of the varieties derived from Hale's Early. The yellow-fleshed fruit appears to have some affinity for the disease, a fact which suggests an interesting field for chemical exploration.

How to Eat Lemons.

Most people know the benefit of lemonade before breakfast, but few know how it is more than doubled by taking at night also. The way to get the better of a bilious system without blue pills or quinine, is to take the juice of one, two or three lemons, as the appetite craves, as much ice water as to make it pleasant to drink, without sugar, before going to bed. In the morning on rising, or at least half an hour before breakfast, the juice of one lemon in a goblet of water. This will clear the system of humors and bile, with mild efficacy, without any of the weakening effects of Congress water. People should not irritate the stomach by eating the lemons clear; the powerful acid of the juice, which is almost corrosive, infallibly produces inflammation after a while; but properly diluted, so that it does not burn or draw the throat, it does its full medicinal work without harm, and when the stomach is clear of food has abundant opportunity to work the system thoroughly.

DR. J. B. LAWES, of Rothamstead, England, says that the potato possesses the property of converting a very much larger portion of the manure ingredients of the soil into human food than any of the cereal grain crops. For instance, to every bushel of wheat about one hundred pounds of straw are grown, while the haulm of the potatoes when dry is so light that in experimenting we do not think it worth while to weigh it. These properties when combined with a suitable climate, enable the cultivator to produce upon a given area of ground a larger amount of human food from the potato than from any of the cereal grain crops.

THE POWER OF THE PRESS.—In no way is the power of the press more surely shown than in the universal knowledge that has in less than a year, been diffused throughout fifty millions of people of the wonderful curative properties of that splendid remedy Kidney-Wort. And the people from the Atlantic to the Pacific have shown their intelligence and their knowledge of what is in the papers, by already making Kidney-Wort their household remedy for all diseases of the kidneys, liver and bowels.—*Herald.*

Dr. J. B. Lawes, of England, believes that live stock demands dryer food in winter feeding than in summer. He also believes that the American farmer claims too much for ensilage, when applied to grass or clover, since they are best fed dry, the silo adding nothing to their value and the process of drying in the production of hay subtracting nothing but water.

[How about corn fodder or fodder corn, peas, rye, &c. Again the difficulty in curing clover is usually great; and the ensilaging it would save all that is now lost often in curing it for hay. We are under the impression too much cannot be claimed for the ensilage system.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

VARNISHED MELONS.—The Harrisburg *Patriot* says: A lady has discovered a plan to keep watermelons in their natural form and flavor for an indefinite length of time. She has successfully tried it in past seasons, and, as a consequence, has been able to treat her family to a watermelon supper at Christmas time. The plan is an inexpensive and simple one, and consists in giving the melon three or four coats of varnish to exclude the air. She says they not only keep from decay, but that the flavor and sweetness are retained, and when eaten at Christmas or New Year's the fruit seems to be wonderfully improved in these particulars.

Catalogues Received.

John Saul's catalogue of Dutch and other bulbous flower roots for 1881, Washington City, D. C.

E. P. Roe's fall catalogue of small fruits, Cornwall-on-Hudson, N. Y.

From J. F. Tillinghast, seedsman and publisher of "*Seed-time and Harvest*," La Plume, Lackawanna County, Pa.

Price List of ornamental trees and small fruits of Tuckahoe Nursery, Hillsborough, Caroline County, Md. C. E. Jarrell, proprietor.

MADE from harmless materials and adapted to the needs of fading and falling hair, Parker's Hair Balsam has taken the first rank as an elegant and reliable hair restorative.

POULTRY HOUSE.

Conducted by T. B. Dorsey,
St. Denis, Baltimore Co., Md.



HEAD I.

No. 2.

The Black Cochin.

As a rule this variety possesses very much the same characteristics as his congeners, except that the birds do not generally weigh as much as other Cochins. They are good layers, the egg being little larger than that of the Buff, are good setters and fair mothers. They are hardy and a good fowl for breeders in the city, as their solid black plumage does not soil easily with smoke or dust. The three different points to obtain in fancy specimens, are, first, color, which is often dingy instead of the rich greenish, or purplish black it should be; second, leg-feathering, which as a rule is too light and when heavy is apt to turn to vulture hock, (this is a projection near and back of the knee joint, the feathers having quills, instead of being soft, as required;) and third, black legs, instead of yellowish black, which is looked for by the standard requirements. This last point I have always regarded as a mistake, as I think a yellow leg on a pure black fowl an anomaly, nearly all black breeds having black, blue or olive legs.

HEAD II.—No. 1.

Cholera.

Of all the maladies to which domestic fowls are subject, this one is by far the most dreaded by the majority of breeders. It has never been a great terror to me, for I have always found it to yield readily to treatment, and easily prevented. For the benefit of the sufferers from its ravages, however, I shall give a brief account of its causes, its symptoms and its cure. And let me here repeat that my knowledge of the matter is entirely practical and not an attempted improvement on the views of others.

Causes.

The chief cause is want of care. Vermin, which weaken the strength of the bird, con-

finement in foul runs, with poor feed and dirty water vessels; want of green food, gravel and shade in the summer, are all apt agents for the disease. It is very contagious and infectious, and if the sick fowls are allowed to remain with the others it will spread with marvellous rapidity, and is extremely fatal.

Symptoms.

Drooping, loss of appetite, excessive thirst, paleness in color of comb, face and wattles are the first. Then watery discharges, the excrement being of a greenish white color, weakness, staggering, and death. This last generally occurs in twenty-four hours after the second symptoms set fairly in.

Cure.

Remove sick fowl instantly from the other and (if in summer) put in a dark, cool place. Give a teaspoonful of castor oil. If it acts freely, take a half or whole slice of loaf bread, according to size of bird, put in a saucer a good pinch of cayenne pepper, 4 to 6 drops of camphor and as much whiskey or brandy as the slice of bread will absorb without getting too soft. Give half of this an hour after the oil has acted, and the balance within twelve hours. Where the case was taken in time I have never lost a bird.

Preventions.

Clean, fumigate and purify at once.—Watch others with great care for symptoms. Put white oak bark or a small quantity of tannin in the water, and mix a little red pepper and kerosene in the soft food. Feed green food sparingly unless birds are accustomed to free range. Bury dead birds deeply under ground and far away from the yards. I cured, last spring, the birds of a neighbor who had already lost 60, and this, too, within less than four days. But strict attention to the preventatives are half the battle in effecting a rout of the enemy.

MANY MISERABLE PEOPLE drag themselves about with failing strength, feeling that they are steadily sinking into their graves, when, by using Parker's Ginger Tonic, they would find a cure commencing with the first dose, and vitality and strength surely coming back to them. See other column.

THE DAIRY.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Co-operative Creameries.

In my article about creameries, on page 277 current volume, to which the editor has made graceful mention, the idea which I have tried to elaborate is one relating to the individual dairy, and to it alone, but lying close upon the borderland of this subject, is the one of co-operative creameries, the combined manufacturing of the butter of a half hundred dairies, and one in which the making of cheese is not considered, one, which it is very evident that the drift of public taste in butter is tending, as a substitute for the promiscuous farm product. The inclinations are that the day will soon come when the high and low grade of dairy butter will be forced down to a point in price below cost of production, and protection will come for the farmer in the isolated dairy farms by this co-operative principle, and it will not only be protection, but will also be a profitable occupation.

Co-operative creameries are based upon the Fairlamb principle, we believe, as all are similar in purport. The different creameries using, perhaps, different patents, but in fact vary but slightly from the original plan. All these practice cream gathering and are "run" upon two systems, individual and co-operative. The first is conducted as a business investment, some man erecting the creamery, buys the cream at some stipulated price, collects the cream, paying for it monthly. The other plan is to form a company, each dairyman becoming a patron and a stockholder, contributing a pro rata amount towards buildings and expenses, and in return, joining in the pro rata dividends.

The inquiry that comes up from all sections relating to this system, and the one which we suspect will govern the workings of the creameries mentioned collectively on page 285, prompts us to give the system in its details in the FARMER.

The first step will be for some one to move in the matter and canvass a certain district and ascertain how many cows can be depended upon. No co-operative creamery should be started with less than 250, and 500 will come nearer insuring success, for the cost in fixtures, and the expense of making would be but a trifle more.

These pledges secured, a meeting should be called, officers elected, building committee chosen, etc. Usually, the whole matter is voted to a Board of Control of three or five members, an assessment is made and the work progresses. This Board is usually made a board of arbitration, should disputes arise or differences of opinion occur; and they also select a salesman and book-keeper.

As nearly or quite all manufacturers of supplies for such creameries send out full directions; these can be taken for the part of the rules and regulations relating to the care of the milk, etc. etc.

The location of a factory must be next decided upon, and usually some dwelling house can be purchased near by a never failing spring, cheaper than a new building can be erected, and can be very easily fitted up both for a creamery and a dwelling for the superintendent. As money is needed, additional assessments will have to be made or the patrons can bond themselves for a loan. In all cases, when the money is raised by loan or assessment interest is deducted from the gross receipts and paid to the stockholder pro rata, or to the holder of the bond.

In machinery, a small boiler and engine will be needed, cream tanks, cans, churns, a large butter worker, and a general assortment of helps and aids. One room will have to be awarded to cold storage, a room well ventilated and kept free from odors. To do all this, a working capital of probably \$2,000 will be required, which, if fifty patrons were to join forces, would amount to \$40.00 each, and as interest will be allowed on this sum, it will be simply an investment which would return to the holder a per cent. like this. Interest \$2.40, butter from 20 cows, sold at the store, 5,000 lbs., at 20 cents per pound, \$1,000, sold at creamery at 30 cents, (the difference between dairy and creamery butter,) \$1,500. Net dividend on a \$40 investment, \$502.40.

How to work a creamery will form the subject of another chapter.

JOHN GOULD.

Western Reserve, Ohio, Aug. 30.

[We call the attention of all who may be thinking of forming co-operative creameries in Maryland and other Southern States, to the above excellent article, and to another to follow in November, from the

pen of our able and practical correspondent, whose writings are always instructive.
EDS. MD. FAR.]

For the Maryland Farmer.

When to have Cows in Profit.

Upon circumstances alone depends the best time to have the cows come into profit, for those who have large herds naturally wish to keep up a regular supply of milk or butter, or both, and try to have their cows come in fresh in succession, as a rule, though many dairymen, careful and systematic in nearly all other respects, breed their cows as fast as they show signs of "heat." When but a few cows are kept and butter is made for market, we consider it a good plan to have the cows drop their calves early in the winter or late in the fall so as to be in full flow of milk when butter is scarcer and higher than it is during the grass season. Some object to this plan on the score of having to feed principally dry food for several months, though the flow of milk can be kept heavy by feeding liberally and using plenty of roots in conjunction with the dry food. At all events it is more profitable to feed the cow which is in a heavy flow of milk than one which is not, for the kind of food is about the same in both cases, and when the cow has been milking for four or five months the new grass comes in to increase the flow and keep it well up until calving time again.

This practice may have its objections to those who wish to raise the calves, for it entails considerable extra work to prevent them from being stunted while so young, yet this extra care necessarily insures better stock, and any slight set back they may have had in the winter soon disappears when they are turned out on the young and succulent grass in the spring.

To adopt this system of bringing the cows in profit, just when they will prove most profitable to the dairyman may cause the apparent loss of a few months, in occasional instances, but when it has once been fairly established, the cows can be regularly bred the same as before, with, of course, occasional exceptions dependent upon unforeseen and generally unavoidable delays.

Where but one cow is kept for family use, it is desirable to breed her constantly, no matter whether she drops her calf in

mid-winter or mid-summer, to keep up a constant supply; but where two or more are kept for principally the same purpose, the time of calving should be regulated so as to bring them in fresh at different intervals, else they will be dry about the same time, there being no milk or butter from them for awhile, and then more than can be well handled, where the object is not to make it for sale, but to supply home needs.
E., JR.

Feed Dairy Cows Liberally.

We believe the dairyman should study how he may produce all the food necessary for his cows upon his own farm, and that he should make all the provision that an intelligent foresight can do; but he should never suffer his herd to go with deficient food, even for one week, for this he cannot afford to do. And that we may encourage him to be liberal, even when his pasture is short, and he has no extra green food for them, let us compare the cost of nutriment in some by-product, such as bran, cotton-seed meal, linseed meal, corn meal, etc., some one of which the dairyman may always find near at hand, with pasture grass. Pasture grass has about 80 per cent. of water, and the nutriment in 100 lbs. of it is supposed to be worth 21 cents. The nutriment of 19 lbs. of fine bran is just equal to 100 lbs. of pasture grass; 10 lbs. of cotton-seed meal, 12 lbs. of linseed meal, or 19 lbs. of corn meal, is equal to 100 lbs. of grass. Now 100 lbs. of pasture grass is a ration for an ordinary sized cow per day. If the pasture, then, is short one-third, or one-half, or in any other proportion, it is easy to make up the deficiency by feeding some one or several of these foods, which are so easily handled. It is seldom that more than one-third would have to be fed to make a full ration on short pasture. Let us suppose the dairyman to be feeding 7 lbs. of fine bran; this at \$8 per ton, 2.8 cents per day, or 19 cents per week. Now, the extra milk per week produced by this bran would much more than pay the cost. If he should feed, instead of bran, 4 lbs. of linseed meal, it would cost him about 28 cents per week; or if 3½ lbs. of cotton-seed meal, it would cost 22 cents per week; or 6½ lbs. of corn meal, it would cost from 20 to 35 cents per cow per week. If he has the cent-

mand of all of these, let him make up a ration nearly as follows: 4 lbs. bran, $\frac{1}{2}$ lb. linseed meal, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. corn meal to each cow per day, which will, in most cases, cost only 20 cents per week, and will keep a generous flow of milk till the fall rains renew the pasture, and then the extra food can be discontinued. We have known many who have used an extra ration similar to this during short pasture, and never found one who reported it unprofitable. The ration may be varied to suit all circumstances. Corn meal will be found cheap in some localities; but it is always best to mix some bran with it; and in most parts of all our broad dairy belt bran will be found the cheapest extra food to make up for short pasture.—*National Live-Stock Journal*.

Food for a Young Calf.

Prof. Arnold says: "A motherless calf can be fattened on new milk by feeding as well as by sucking it from the cow, but it will take a little time to get accustomed to taking its food in that way. It can also be fattened upon other food, if that is what is desired, by taking time enough to habituate it to an unnatural diet. By making the change very gradual and giving the food warm, a calf can be made to grow fat on skimmed milk either sweet or sour, but better when the skim milk is sweet. Of course it will not fatten as fast on skim as on new milk, and it will require a longer time to reach the same result, but the time can be very much shortened by adding a spoonful or two, at first, of molasses, and increase as the calf grows larger and stronger. There is hardly any food which will make animal, young or old, lay on fat faster than molasses, but it must not be used too freely. Hay tea, if one has time and patience to make it, may be gradually substituted for the skim milk; or the milk, little by little, can be replaced with oilmeal dissolved in hot water. An authority at my elbow says bean soup fed as above, warm and thin, will put on both fat and flesh rapidly."

CALVES should have a run in a good piece of grass. The value of a cow depends so much upon the first year's growth that the calf should have the best of feed, that the future animal should be the most profitable.

SOILING.

A correspondent of the *Iowa Homestead*, who keeps five cows on five acres of ground, from which, besides supplying his family with milk and cream, he manufactures 1300 pounds of butter, annually, and raises a calf from each cow, thus describes how he does it:

"I have five acres, about two and three-fourths in pasture, mostly blue grass. I have a strip fourteen rods long and four rods wide, that consists of timothy and clover, which I cut twice and sometimes three times a season. As soon as it will do to cut, I feed it regularly to the cows twice each day, and it lasts till the corn is ready to use. There is a strip fourteen rods long and ten rods wide, which I plant with sweet corn for fodder. I made a dropper that I attach to a two horse planter, which makes the stalks about two inches apart in the row. I plant at three different times, so as to have it early and late. About the 1st of July, I commence to thin out, leaving a stalk about once in a foot. By the time I get over the piece, that which is left is nearly all eared out. Then I commence cutting it up clean. When I get it half cut up I plow the ground and sow winter rye. I sow the balance as soon as the corn is off. This makes good pasture late in the fall and early in the spring. We feed our cows six quarts of corn meal and bran, mixed, equal parts by weight, each day. This is the way I summer five cows on five acres, and have done so for three years past. I manure the ground high, and that is what makes good crops."

WE beg to call the reader's attention to the advertisement of DR. HARTER'S IRON TONIC, which will be found in another column. The medicine is a preparation of Iron and Calisaya bark, in combination with the phosphates, and is indorsed by the medical profession, and recommended by them for Dyspepsia, General Debility, Female Complaints, Want of Vitality, etc. It is manufactured by the DR. HARTER MEDICINE COMPANY, No. 213 North Main Street, St. Louis, Mo. It is certainly the most valuable remedy in the market, and no family should fail to keep it in the house.—*Toledo, (Ohio.) Northern Ohio Democrat*.

OUR LETTER BOX.

T. B., Md., Sept. 9, 1881.

Editors Maryland Farmer:

Enclosed, I send you my subscription to your valuable journal, which is the farmer's guide and true friend. Excuse me for not sending it earlier. Worrying over the excessive heat, in battling with the horn worms, which threatened to destroy what little tobacco the long and severe drought has left, has caused me to overlook my obligation to pay up promptly as heretofore. Mr. Editor, has there ever been such a year as this in damaging effects of heat and drought upon agriculture? We may have had as extensive dry spells, with perhaps as great heat, but never in the long period of over thirty years, in which I have been engaged in farming, have I witnessed such effects from heat as last Wednesday's sun produced on the tobacco crop. The heat was so great on that day, that three or four top leaves of the green tobacco were burned black, as though it had been bitten by a severe frost, and it curls up like tea leaves, thus effectually killing those leaves and checking what little growth was in the balance.

Under all the circumstances, from the present prospects there cannot be a third of a crop of tobacco, or corn, and pastures being entirely burned up, will bring our stock in this fall, in a poor condition to be fed on the scanty supply of corn and provender in store for them. A more gloomy prospect for farmers I have never witnessed yet we have abundant reason to be thankful when compared to other sections where forest fires and cyclones have dealt death and destruction as reported through the press. The drought being so severe there has been no summer fallowing for wheat, which will reduce the acreage seeded this fall very considerably. This, together with the short crop this year and the failure in crop of corn, must send grain up to high figures and cause a great deal of suffering next winter.

Hoping for the best, feeling confident that He "who feeds the birds of the air," orders all things for the best, I am

Yours truly,

WM. H. GWYNN, of THOS.

Preservation of Turnips.

Campbell Co., Va., Aug. 25.

Mr. Editor:—Please give your readers some advice and directions in regard to preserving turnips through the winter for stock purposes. On account of the withering effect of the dry weather upon our usual winter feed crops, it will be necessary to provide some additional food for this winter. Can the turnips be dug and buried right away, in a pit in the field, in which case they would, of necessity, be exposed to wet and cold to some extent, or should they be put under shelter and covered so as to exclude the air, or lightly covered? Would dry or damp sand do to cover turnips if piled upon a dirt floor under shelter. Please tell us how to take care of turnips for our winter food, as a great pinch seems to be upon us this coming winter. Please let your directions appear in the October number unless you prefer to give in September.

Yours truly,

A SUBSCRIBER.

[The practice has prevailed in Maryland for years to let turnips stand as long in the field as the ground remains unfrozen, then to take them up, top them, and put them in pits or trenches, say two feet deep and four feet wide, raising the heap above ground in a conical shape, or like the sharp roof of a house. Cover well with straw, and throw the dirt over it to the depth of 8 or 10 inches thick. Pat it firmly with the spade or hoe. The trenches should be upon dry ground and, if possible, slightly inclining, so as to shed water. The turnips should be dug in dry weather and on a clear day. After the trenches are filled, cut a small ditch around them to carry off any extra water that might otherwise be left to soak in through the bottom of the trench. The trenches should be not over 20 feet in length, or, if longer, insert a wisp of straw on the top every 10 or 20 feet to let off confined air. We have kept them in this plain way, up to May in perfect order.—EDS. MD. FAR.]

Louisville, Ky., Aug. 23, 1881.

Mr. Ezra Whitman:

Having a few leisure moments, and knowing that you and the Colonel would like to learn something of the West, will improve them by writing a few lines.

As you know I started on my trip from New York State, which State I left booming in every particular. That part of the State I visited is entirely devoted to the dairy, and as its products have all been bringing good prices, every one seemed happy. This feeling was pretty generally felt all up the lakes, but as I crossed over to Dubuque, Iowa, I began to see and hear of the effects of the drouth, although the northern part of the State is not very much affected. I then went across to Kansas City, Mo., where I found every one very blue. The State of Kansas has realized very little from her wheat, from corn they will hardly get a fourth crop. If they be blessed with rain now, it can hardly do anything for the corn crop. Missouri I find in about the same condition, although her wheat was better. I came back to Indiana, where I hear even worse reports than before. I was talking with a farmer who had 40 acres of wheat, which yielded him 124 bushels of wheat, and another party had 15 acres and got 23 bushels. I have seen immense fields of corn that were as white and dry as they ought to be in October. Kentucky seems to be in as bad a shape as the balance of the South-western States. Old settlers say they have never known anything to compare with it. There has been no rain scarcely for two months, and with as warm weather as we have been having all over the country, you, perhaps, may judge something of the condition of the country. One of the worst features of the drouth is, that the pastures are entirely dried up and they are obliged to feed their forage now. One gentleman told me yesterday that he had been buying fine short horns, at prices as low as common stock sold for 6 weeks ago.

I am going up the Ohio river this week, and hope to find things more encouraging.

J. L. H.

[This letter, from a gentleman traveling, this summer, over the west, came too late for September number, but we insert it as a record of the great drouth of 1881.
EDS. MD. FAR.]

COMPLIMENTARY.—We copy a part of a letter to us from a distinguished agriculturalist, of Ohio, for which we return our thanks.

*"Friend Whitman:—*Accept my thanks for the last FARMER, I think it the best number I have received yet. May you renew your youth and may Vol. 36, No. 9, 1899, find you yet doing vigorous, editorial work for agriculture."

Premium Maryland Hogs.

Our friend, A. M. Fulford, Esq., of Bel-Air, Harford county, Md., writes us, that he has lately taken for his Berkshire Hogs at the State show in Minneapolis, the only sweepstakes he exhibited them for, also 7 first, and 5 second prizes; and at the great show of Chicago, one sweepstakes, 5 first prizes and 2 second prizes, thus winning more than any other head exhibited at those fairs,

The Drought in Virginia.

Col. B., an esteemed correspondent of Culpepper, Va., writes us:

"We have had an unprecedented drought, no appreciable rain from early May until a few days since. The corn crop is a signal failure—grass burnt up or eaten off close by the stock. I have never before been in such a strait for pasturage. My stock all unusually slim; have been cutting the runt corn for them or giving them hay, daily, for the last month."

Sept. 14th, 1881.

TAKE a new flower pot, wash it clean, wrap it in a wet cloth and set over butter, it will keep as hard as if on ice.

MILK, if put into an earthen can, or even a tin one, will keep sweet for a long time, if well wrapped in a wet cloth.

How to invest a dollar and make five:
Buy a bottle of Kendall's Spavin Cure.
See advertisement.

MARYLAND FARMER

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture and Rural Economy.

EZRA WHITMAN, Editor,

COL. W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor,

141 WEST PRATT STREET,

BALTIMORE, MD.

BALTIMORE, OCTOBER 1st, 1881.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

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TERMS OF ADVERTISING

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| Half Page..... | 12.00 | 25.00 | 40.00 | 70.00 |
| One Page..... | 20.00 | 45.00 | 75.00 | 120.00 |

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☞ Transient Advertisements payable in advance

☞ Advertisements to secure insertion in the ensuing month should be sent in by the 20th of the month.

TO ADVERTISERS!

The large circulation of the Maryland Farmer makes it one of the best mediums for advertisers of all classes. Its circulation will be largely increased by our reduction in the Subscription Price, and hence add to its advantages as a medium for advertisers. The terms of advertising will remain as heretofore.

THE MARYLAND FARMER is now read by more Farmers, Planters, Merchants, Mechanics and others interested in Agriculture, than any other magazine which circulates in the Middle or Southern States, and therefore is the best medium for advertisers who desire to extend their sales in this territory

☞ We call attention to our Reduction in Price of Subscription.

TERMS.

| | |
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| " " 100 " " " " | 60 00 |

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SPECIAL PREMIUMS

For those who may Canvass for New Subscribers.

Any person who sends us 100 Subscribers, at \$1.00, will receive the world-renowned Howe Sewing Machine, with all the latest improvements. Value, \$50.00.

Any person who sends us 80 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive 1 Young America Corn and Cob Mill, worth \$40.00.

Any person who sends us 50 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive 1 of the celebrated Wheat Fans, which has taken nearly 200 premiums. Value, \$28.00.

Any person who sends us 25 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Roland Plow. Value, \$12.00.

Any person who sends us 15 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Farm Bell. Value, \$6.00.

Any person who sends us 6 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Nickel-Plated Revolver, Long Fluted Cylinder. Value \$2.50.

THESE ARTICLES WE WARRANT TO BE FIRST-CLASS.

☞ It will not be necessary to secure the subscribers all at one time. For instance, if any one wants the Mill we offer for 80 new subscribers, he can send the names in any number he chooses, and we will allow him a whole year to finish the club.

☞ COL. D. S. CURTIS, of Washington, D. C., is authorized to act as Correspondent and Agent to receive subscriptions and advertisements for the MARYLAND FARMER, in the District of Columbia Maryland and Virginia.

☞ Our friends can do us a good turn by mentioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors, and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

Great Times in Baltimore this Month.

First, there will be a great influx of visitors from all parts of the country, on their way to the Yorktown Centennial, who will stop to see the grand sights at the Baltimore Oriole, Mardi Gras celebration, that begins on the 10th and winds up on the 12th.

Then comes off the splendid meeting at Pimlico, the Maryland Jockey Club holding its Fall meeting, this year, on the 18th, 19th, 20th and 21st days of October. The following week, the State Fair will be held at Pimlico, and no doubt be very attractive as an agricultural fair, besides, by a happy combination with the Jockey Club, be a continuation of the races under the auspices of these two associations. Directly following all this, the National Fair Association, at Ivy City, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, and within sight of the capitol of the United States, will begin its week of racing on the 1st of November, so that there will be three continuous weeks horse racing at Baltimore and Washington, its neighboring city. These three associations will divide \$22,000 among the successful competitors for club purses alone, besides other stakes, handicaps, &c., making 45 races in all, to come off during these three weeks.

Persons wishing to combine at this delightful season of the year, pleasure with business, or seeking pleasure in grand sight seeing, will have full opportunity to fill their cup of pleasure to the brim, and attend to much business matters, while their wives and daughters will have ample time to do all their shopping without hurry. Such a combination of attractions and brilliant entertainments, continuing so long, and covering so many subjects of interest to the people of the whole country, have never before challenged the presence of farmers and their families. Therefore, we expect to see an outpouring of people from all quarters commensurate with these great undertakings by the citizens of Baltimore

The Fairs that are Over.

The Grangers of Maryland, Pennsylvania and Virginia, gave a picnic at Williams Grove, Pa. Fully 20,000 people were present. Delegates were present from New York, Ohio, New Jersey, Delaware, and West Virginia. Mr. C. L. Whitney, of Cincinnati, and Leonard Rhone, Master of the Pennsylvania State Grange, made the speeches of the occasion.

THE Baltimore County Society held its annual Fair at Timonium, during the first week of September. Although the weather was very oppressive there was a large attendance and the Fair was a financial success. The Hon. Mr. Randall, of Pennsylvania, delivered an excellent address. Our thanks are tendered the officers of the Society for a complimentary ticket.

OLD Montgomery County held its annual Agricultural Fair, at Rockville, in September, and we are glad to hear it was a success. This is one of the oldest and best conducted agricultural associations in the State, and we hope it may long flourish and assist in the rapid progress of agriculture going on in that progressive county.

THE Officers of the Indiana State Fair will accept out thanks for their complimentary invitation to be present on their Fair Grounds, at Indianapolis, on the 26th September to the 1st of October.

KENT County Fair was held at their fair grounds, near Chestertown, during the second week in September, and was well attended; and from the number of exhibits we conclude that the farmers and their families in that county feel a deep interest and evince general sympathy in the success of this flourishing association. We had the pleasure of attending this meeting and here cheerfully acknowledge the many

kind attentions shown us by President, Vannort and other officers and members of the Society. Our visit was a pleasant one, and as we made a circuit through the county, we were much pleased at the advanced state of agriculture in this county, which has become so famous for its fruit and wheat crops.

Among the farms we were most struck with, for their neat appearance and as evincing intelligent culture, were those of Messrs. S. Vannort, Isaac Parsons, R. Nicholson, W. W. Stephens, Thos. and John Gale, J. W. Corry, W. Morris, W. Eliason, W. Ford, J. Ringgold, J. Bree and J. Cosden. There are fine roads, well kept live fences, good stock, extensive fruit orchards and improved lands in this county which attract the passing traveller and command the attention of immigrants desirous of finding a pleasant locality in which to invest their funds and fix upon a dwelling place for life.

We have not space to enter into particulars as to the various exhibits we saw at the Fair, but only to say generally that they were all highly creditable and were so many in numbers as to make the show a fine one. The Household Department was attractive and reflected honor upon the ladies of Kent.

The racing was very interesting and we saw many fine roadsters and other breeds of horses that would have done credit to any fair. The splendid Short-horns of Mr. Emory attracted much attention, as also the pens of sheep of President Vannort. We are pleased to hear that this exhibition was a financial success. W.

THE Maine State Fair, at Lewiston, held September 6, 7, 8 and 9, 1881, was a remarkable one, considering its locality. There were an immense number of exhibits of all sorts in the different departments. There were three hundred fine horses exhibited and other stock in like proportions. We learn from our New England exchanges that the drawing contest for oxen,

was admirable. These contests decide the power, muscle and training of the animals that Northern farmers depend so much upon for most of their farm work. For a yoke of oxen 7 feet 6 inches girth or over, the loaded drag weighed 5630 lbs. For two year old steers, handled trained and driven by boys, the load was 1339 lbs., subsequently increased by the addition of from four to six men. The first prize was taken by a twelve year old son of Mr. Hinds. The second prize was awarded to Job Prince, of Turner, *nine years old*. The total expenses were \$10,000, the gross receipts \$17,000, and the net profits are likely to be over \$5,000.

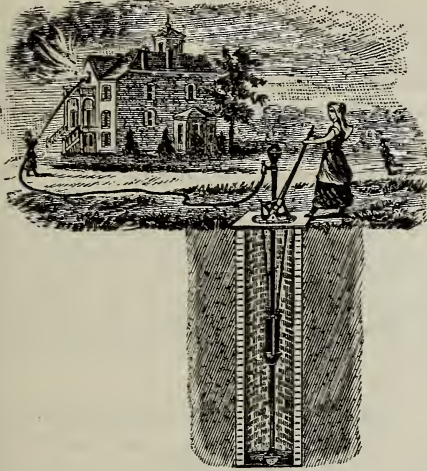
If Maine can do this, what should we not expect from our State society, with a fine show, easily reached and close to Baltimore city, with its 350,000 inhabitants and other great advantages. The people of Baltimore would be greatly benefited by contributing to the Fair at Pimlico, not in money alone, but giving it encouragement by their personal attendance. If Baltimore understood its true interest, the State Annual Fair would soon be able to offer, like St. Louis, \$50,000 in premiums, and thereby bring great crowds of visitors yearly from all parts of the Union. We feel sure that this year the Fair will give evidence that ere long such a hope will be realized, and hereafter, Pimlico will be as popular as an agricultural Fair ground as it is now renowned for its Jockey Club Races.

THE AMERICAN POMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—We are indebted to the venerable Colonel Wilder, President for thirty years of this great Society, for an early copy of the eloquent and able address, delivered by him on the occasion, from which we shall next month give some extracts.

POSTPONEMENT.—The Harford County Fair has been postponed from the 11th to the 12th of October, that it might not conflict with the great Oriole festival of Baltimore, on the 11th.

"THE SUCCESS"

*Force and Suction Pump, Double Acting
and Anti-freezing.*



THE SUCCESS.

We consider this pump, manufactured by W. Allderdice, of Baltimore, as a very valuable invention for farmers, for all ordinary purposes, as well as a great protection against fire. This is a grand consideration. This new pump is simple in construction, durable, easy to work and cheap. It has been used by many persons with great satisfaction, and among them, Mr. Charles J. Baker, of Franklin Bank of Baltimore, says, of one he has at his country seat, "I am confident it will be a reliable power to furnish speedily any amount of water to put out any ordinary fire that may occur to my dwelling or any of the out-buildings on my place."

Dr. Chas. G. W. Maggill states that he "uses it to force water to tank in top of house, also to supply stable trough, about one hundred yards away. I also force water through 100 feet of hose to wash windows, irrigate the garden &c. I regard the pump as superior to any I have ever seen. It is perfectly noiseless and any child can work it." It surely is worth the attention of any one in want of a pump, combining so many useful purposes.

International Cotton Exposition.

We are informed by the officers of the International Cotton Exposition, to be held at Atlanta, Ga., from the 5th inst., and to continue until the 31st December, 1881, that excursion tickets from Baltimore will be sold during the time of holding the exposition, at only \$28.50, good to return within 30 days from date of purchase. This is but a trifle to see one of the grandest Southern Expositions ever held, and perhaps one of the most magnificent that has heretofore been held in this country or the world. The season of the year, and the delights of the Southern country, at that season, will no doubt induce thousands to visit this great exhibition at Atlanta.

**Genl. G. S. Meems Great Sheep
Sales in Maryland.**

The General met with favor at Hagerstown, where 200 bucks, ewes and lambs were sold at fair, though by no means high prices. But his sale at Baltimore, on the 26th of August, was not so much of a financial success. We were surprised at the slim attendance of buyers. He offered 200 Southdown and Cotswold sheep from the best breeders of Kentucky, and the farmers of Maryland and other States failed to embrace the opportunity thus offered by his enterprise to enrich the blood of their flocks by purchasing Kentucky sheep.

It is true, there were sold some 150 or 180 head, but at prices far below the real value of such superior blooded sheep. The Cotswolds were looking badly after the long drought and their recent travel, but the Southdowns were pictures of beauty and vim. Maryland, however, does not seem to be the market for Southdowns, and why, we are at a loss to know, for in our opinion, they take rank, all things considered, with any sheep of the day. We trust that the General may live for years to prosecute his laudable enterprise in introducing yearly

into Maryland and Virginia, improved breeds of cattle and sheep, by means of these annual sales, where farmers can meet and purchase at vendue, according to their fancy, such stock as will infuse new blood into their own herds and flocks.

Publications Received.

"Vick's Floral Magazine"—Is always beautiful, some numbers *more* beautiful, like the August or mid-summer number; but the September number is *most* beautiful! It is only \$1.25 per annum. Every number is worth that sum for its instruction, independent of its adornments and elegant dress. It is the grandest floral and vegetable magazine in the world, and in this dictum there is no exaggeration.

"God Bless the Little Woman."—F. W. Helmick, Music Publisher, 180 Elm Street, Cincinnati, O., has just published one of the most beautiful songs that has of late years come to this office. Everybody ought to buy it, and everybody ought to sing it. It refers to the noble wife of President Garfield, who has stood by her husband during the terrible struggle for life which has been engaged since July 3, cheering him, encouraging him to keep steady, persevere, and he would yet conquer. The following words constitute the chorus of the charming little song:

CHORUS.

Stand by him, little woman!
Stand firm and brave and true!
And remember little woman,
We will always stand by you.

This song is easily arranged so that all players on the Piano or Organ can master it with perfect ease. Price, 35 cents per copy; or four copies for \$1.00. Postage stamps taken as currency.

"Ornamental Planting."—An essay by W. C. Barry, of Mt. Hope Nurseries, Rochester, N. Y., has been received, and we shall gladly give extracts hereafter from it, as it is one of the best written, practical and instructive essays, upon the subject of improvement of private grounds and rural ornamentation with trees and flowers, we have ever read.

From the accomplished Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture of Kansas—

J. K. Hudson, Esq.—the quarterly report of said Board for June, 1881. The reports are of general interest and value, and embrace a wide field of investigation, with much statistical information about the crops, industries, mines and productive capabilities and resources of the growing State of Kansas. These reports, as we have said before, are calculated to do infinite service to the State and in building up her waste places with enterprising immigrants.

Part 25 of the Illustrated "Book of the Dog," by Vero Shaw, contains a fine colored engraving of a Bull Terrier and Dalmatian Dog, and a large quantity of instructive letter press on the subject of canines, their disease, and most approved methods of cure, remedies, &c. Price, 40 cents. Cassell, Peter, Galpin & Co., New York.

"Our Little Ones," is a charming juvenile periodical, and gives great satisfaction to the little folks who can read, or old enough to understand the explanation of its many pretty illustrations. Russell Publishing House, Boston.

Catalogues Received.

From E. Whitman, Sons & Co., of Baltimore, Md., their beautiful and useful catalogue for 1882. This is a book of 160 pages, full of instructive reading matter about farm and garden seeds, their uses, the time for planting, best methods of cultivation, prices, quantity of seeds for specific areas, &c. Also, there are numerous illustrations and descriptions of all sorts of machinery and utensils for the farm, garden and household, many of which are new and of great value to the agriculturist. The book is elegantly printed on tinted paper and neatly arranged and bound.

This large and popular house deserves great credit for their enterprise, and no doubt will receive the thanks and patronage of the public for their efforts to supply all the wants of the farmer in implements, and in furnishing so much valuable, practical information in this large catalogue. Every farmer should have a copy, which we learn will be sent **free**, upon the request of anyone who desires to patronize the House, and who encloses 5 cents to pay postage on this valuable book.

From Randolph Peters, Wilmington, Delaware. Descriptive catalogue of Trees and Plants in great variety and quantities. Embellished with a colored plate of Gibbs' Apple and Langford's Seedling Apple.

From H. S. Anderson, Cayuga Lake Nurseries, Union Springs, N. Y. Descriptive catalogues 1 to 4, of Fruit, and Ornamental Roses, Small Fruits, &c., fully illustrated and instructive.

From John Saul, Washington city, D. C., his annual catalogue for 1881 and 1882, of trees, and every variety of shrubs, roses, plants, &c. This well established nursery and green house at the capital of the Union is too well known for its reliability for us to add a word of praise or encouragement.

Agricultural Exhibitions—1881.

State Societies.

| | | |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| American Institute..... | New York..... | Sep 14 to Nov 26 |
| Cotton Exposition..... | Atlanta, Ga..... | Oct 5 to Dec 31 |
| Illinois, Fat Stock..... | Chicago..... | Nov 7 to 12 |
| Maryland..... | Baltimore..... | Oct 26 to 30 |
| North Carolina..... | Raleigh..... | Oct 10 to 15 |
| Virginia..... | Richmond..... | Oct 17 to 27 |

VIRGINIA—LOCAL.

| | | |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|
| Accomac County..... | Boggs Wharf..... | Aug 30 to Sep 1 |
|---------------------|------------------|-----------------|

County and Local.

MARYLAND.

| | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|
| Cecil..... | Elkton..... | Oct 4 to 7 |
| Frederick..... | Frederick..... | Oct 11 to 13 |
| Washington..... | Hagerstown..... | Oct 4 to 7 |
| Harford..... | Bel Air..... | Oct 12 to 15 |

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

| | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| National Association.... | Washington City.... | Oct 10 to 15 |
| D. C. Horticultural Society..... | | Oct. 3 to 6 |

THE GRAND EXPOSITION of the new England Manufacturers and Mechanics' Institute, Boston, is now open, to continue until November. It promises to be the most attractive display of Yankee industries ever before given in the New England States. The edifice has a seating capacity for over 100,000 persons, and cost \$300,000, and is lighted by fifty electric lights. We have no space here to describe this magnificent edifice and its contents; suffice it to say that the results of Yankee genius and enterprise the world over will be gathered there. The varied products of muscle and brain under one roof, presenting them to view in grand panoramic display of industries.

For the Maryland Farmer.

The Application of Manure to Cultivated Crops.

Change is written upon all things. The fashions of this world change and the practices of farmers are by no means exempt. It is frequently said of Connecticut farmers that in many cases, the average farmer follows in the same ruts made in the early history of the agriculture of the State, by his ancestors, through generations remote from him. This is a slander upon the average farmer and should not be repeated until cases can be found, in which the tiller of the soil employs in his efforts at cultivation, the old, wooden plow, with forged point, the manufacture of the village blacksmith; the rude, broad, three tined manure fork; the old fashioned hoe with the eye for the handle, which is made at the shave house; the clumsy pitchfork; the rude scythe and snath, and so through the entire inventory of farm implements that are used upon farms generally.

But it may be said that the imputation of antiquity of practice applies to *modes* of cultivation rather than to the *implements* employed. Assuming this to be the claim, it stands upon a like unstable foundation, for the practices and modes of cultivation of to-day are very unlike what they were even a half century or less ago.

In the one matter of the application of manure to cultivated crops, (and it was very seldom that application was made to the soil in any other manner,) there has been a marked change with a decidedly advance stride. The almost universal practice formerly consisted of spreading manure upon the surface of the ground in the field to be cultivated, plowing it under as deeply as the natural condition of the soil would admit of, and then furrowing for the crop to be planted, (if corn or potatoes,) put a moderate shovelfull of manure on each hill and upon this plant the seed. In this regard the change is very manifest, farmers have learned that there is no difficulty, under ordinary circumstances, in procuring the descent of fertilizers into the soil, without any special artificial aid from the plow; and instead of turning it down, perhaps, upon a firm sub-soil, it is more generally spread upon the upturned furrows, with which it is incorporated by means of the

harrow, an operation which also effects an additional pulverization of the soil.

It is seldom that manure is now very largely employed on the hill; it is more frequently the case that a small quantity of commercial or domestic phosphate, or some other concentrated fertilizer is employed in the hill, thus giving a slight stimulus to the early growth of the crop.

In the results of this practice are noticed a marked improvement. For, while with the old practice, the heavy manuring in the hill induced a vigorous growth which was not fully completed by the manure plowed under usually resulting in a proportionately larger quantity of clover than of good, sound grain, in the case of corn, now, with a sufficient stimulus to promote the growth of rootlets extending out into the soil, brings the plant directly in connection with the manure therein incorporated, from which it obtains a sufficient amount of nourishment to carry the same to a full and perfect development.

And unless it is attributed to carelessness of statistics in the remote past than at more recent dates, notwithstanding the claim of following the fathers, and the decline of New England agriculture, while the general acreage of crops has diminished, the production per acre has considerably increased, which results, by a legitimate course of reasoning, may certainly be partially attributed to a change in manner of application of manure. If it is only incorporated with the soil, the nearer the surface the better, for with the falling rains and water descending through the soil, there is no danger of losing the effects of the manure; the soluble portions will descend rapidly enough, without being buried as deeply as can be with the plow.

Some farmers whose work is crowned with very marked success, have preferred spreading manure upon the surface of the soil, using no effort to incorporate the same therewith, except such means as are used in the cultivation of crops, being better satisfied with the results than by the old methods. In a heavy, compact soil, the plowing in of coarse manure is frequently advantageous, because of the mechanical effect produced in the pulverization of the soil which is effected by the decaying manure. The varieties of soil and the necessities resulting from such varieties, give occasion for the exercise of sound judgment

and changes of procedure.

Let the person who believes there is no change in agriculture, study the past a little more closely and patiently observe the present, and a change of views will be likely to occur. WM. H. YEOMANS.

Columbia, Conn.

Excessive Rains Destroying the English Harvest.

The *London Times* in a leading article, says:

"With each day there is less hope of a good harvest. The weather has turned against us at the critical moment. The loss to the country from the late rains is to be reckoned by millions. It is impossible to gather in the corn, and it will soon cease to be worth gathering. The situation of our farmers is dismal. For many of them a bad harvest means absolute ruin. Farming is a highly skilled enterprise, and if the present race of farmers succumb and are driven out of their business, there will be no others capable of succeeding them."

THE Corresponding Secretary of the District of Columbia Horticultural Society, Col. D. S. Curtis, sends us complimentary tickets for its second Annual Exhibition, to be held in Washington city, on the 4th of October, and continue four days, for which we return our thanks and hope to be present on the pleasant occasion.

HARRISBURG, PA., Nov. 18, 1880.

DR. B. J. KENDALL & Co.—Gents:—I have a very fine mare that has had a bone spavin for a long time. I tried everything man could devise to cure it, but all in vain, and was about to give it up, when a friend of mine, in this city, came to me and recommended Kendall's Spavin Cure, which I tried with grand results, removing that bone clear and clean. Then I sent 25 cents to you for one of your illustrated horse books and I think there is no better book printed on the horse and his diseases. I have taken great interest in it and have since sold eighteen copies for you, to my neighbors, and will try and do what good I can by getting them for others. Yours truly,

G. W. MILLER.

LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

Chats with the Ladies for October

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

"Yellow the harvest-fields with golden grain,
And the white-bearded bending barley-ears
Nod in the soft South breeze; the poppy hides
Her scarlet glory from the noontday sun,
Amid their sheltering stems; the clover-patch
Is flushed with roscate glories—and the lark,
His speckled breast gemmed with the morning dew,
Springs up with clear, shrill note, all-jubilant
Toward the broad blue heavens; the quivering oats
Rustle their waving pennons, and the vetch
Her purple petals shows.

"The orchard lands
Teem with a wealth of fruit; the russet-pear
Neighbors the red-streaked apple; dark-blue plums
Their luscious tears let fall; green gages swell
Beside the bloomy damsons; apricots
(Their golden globes leaf-hidden on the wall)
Perfume the air; and the pink, downy peach
Vies with the rosy-tinted nectarine
In daily fragrance.

"Ripening hang the nuts
Upon the laden boughs; the clusters brown
Of russet hazels; the spiked bursting husks
Of polished chesnuts; and the teeming store
Of mellow walnuts. Autumn-tide hath come,
And pours from out her overflowing horn
Her welcome blessings on the grateful Earth!"

The poet gives a pleasant life picture of early autumn. Notwithstanding the long drought and excessive heat of this wonderfully eccentric year 1881, we have much to be thankful for in the varied products of the garden, orchard and fields. While our hopes from the flattering prospects of spring and first part of summer, have not been fully realized; we have as a people been supplied with a sufficiency of flowers, fruits and grains to satisfy our reasonable requirements, and hence we should be grateful to a wise and beneficent Providence. Nature is so full of beauty and the products of earth are so varied and luscious that a well trained mind and warm heart is all the time entertaining thanksgiving and praise to the Maker of all things. For that reason, every parent should contribute every means to make rural life attractive to the young, and lose no opportunity to win the feelings of children to a love of rural life, and engross their thoughts with the beauties, comforts and delights of country homes.

In this connexion, I ask your attention to the following excellent remarks in the Ladies Floral Cabinet on the subject of

Flower Gardens for Children.

Children love flowers quite as much as older people, and if they are permitted to have a small garden all their own, in which they can plant and dig, and weed, and hoe, and use the tiny little implements that are made so cheaply for

the flower garden, they will not only take the greatest delight in its possession, and in the buds and flowers, but will also gain a large amount of health and muscular development. Their love of the beautiful will also be largely cultivated, and they can be taught to give their flowers to the sick, and to poor children, and learn that to give pleasure to others, is the surest way of receiving it themselves.

But of all the lessons to be taught to children by working in a garden, the most valuable is the art of observation. So minute, so varied, and so delicate, and yet so unerring, are the operations of nature that, although the closest study may fail to divulge her secrets, the rewards of such study are so rich and so surprising that they are stimulated to fresh researches. Let the child plant morning glories which bloom so brightly every morning, mignonette and sweet alyssum and forget-me-nots to make tiny, sweet bouquets. Then give a monthly rose bush, a geranium, a feverfew, and some verbenas and pansies, and there will be an amount of flowers which will gladden the hearts of a schoolful of children. If the kind mother will attend to it, and have the beds laid out, and teach her darlings how to plant seeds and set out plants, she will give them an occupation that they will not weary of, while life lasts.

We take pleasure in offering our lady readers some extracts from the writings of an accomplished lady of Harford County, Md., who beside being a pleasant "ready-writer," is a practical housekeeper, and who is so modest as to conceal her real name under the domestic nom de plume of Cousin Mehitabel,—who under that title gained the first prize for an essay on "Housekeeping and its Accessories" from the famous agricultural society of Harford County, Md.

Preserving, Pickling, Canning and Drying Fruit.

BY COUSIN MEHITABEL.

The preserving and pickling will have to be passed by with short notice. All cookery books give so many and such good recipes in both processes, that no housewife can go astray in having a good supply of those pleasant accessories to the table. I would suggest that there is a "fitness of things" to be observed in the selection of spices, flavorings, &c. Never put lemon, nutmegs, or other flavoring, into self-flavored fruits. The different berries, peaches, pears, crab apples, damsons, cherries, plums, &c., are only spoiled by flavoring; unless it may be a few cracked peach kernels in peach preserves. Lemon and ginger are to go with apples, tomatoes, citron, cantelope, and such things as are not distinctly flavored of themselves. Three quarters of suga

to a pound of fruit, is enough for any kind of fruit.

As I think it is not very common and it is so easy to prepare, I will give a recipe for Preserved *Pineapple*: Take off the skin and grate the pineapple on a coarse grater. To each pound or pint of the pulp, put three-quarters of a pound of crushed sugar, and cook twenty minutes. Put away hot in small air-tight jars. This is beautiful to the eye as well as agreeable to the palate. When pineapples are cheap, in May generally; this is not an expensive preserve as so little of the fruit is wasted.

In making *pickles*, do not use ginger. Some recipes call for it, but it is distinctively a flavoring to be used with sugar, and when used in pickles will be found to have an unsatisfactory taste after having stood awhile. Use pepper, allspice, mustard seed, celery seed and horse radish, for sour pickles; cloves, mace and cinnamon for sweet pickles or spiced fruit. Horse radish cut up and put in the vinegar, preserves pickles from mould. No fruit but the apple gives satisfactory results for being sun-dried. Many people regard dried apples, and dried apple pie, with great contempt, but if care is taken in selecting a good kind of apple, and care used in drying them, dried apples can be made quite as good as green ones. Pare, core and remove all specks. Cut the apples into thin slices. Spread singly and evenly upon riddles made of laths nailed an eighth of an inch apart to strips to form ends. Place the riddles on a scaffold slanting towards the sun, and where the wind can have free access. In three days the apples will be dry enough to remove to the house, where they may be spread on papers for a day or two longer. A large quantity may be rapidly dried in this manner.

In *canning fruits*, &c., no particular skill is required; only the exercise of a little care and judgment. In the successful prosecution of this branch of the culinary department, the house-keeper may find use for some of her "book learning." The main requirement is to make the cans air-tight, and keep them so. In filling, carefully press out all air bubbles and fill the cans entirely full, so that they run over when the lid is put on. Screw down the tops as tightly as possible. After they have cooled some, screw them again, and when they are cold give them another turn. This will insure their being perfectly tight. All breakable vessels should be heated in water. I once tried the recommended plan of heating some jars in the

oven, with the result of the most completely smashed lot of stoneware it was ever my lot to behold. For canning tomatoes, use tin cans with tops soldered on. A woman can soon learn the use of a soldering iron, so as to do them for herself, but it is much better and pleasanter to have some mankind to do them for her. What is called the "round red" is the best tomato for canning, being of a nearly uniform size and having less hard core than the larger varieties. This is the kind exclusively used by a gentleman whose canned fruits have a first-class reputation, and whose mode I give for the benefit of my friends. The cans have small tops with a very small hole punctured in the middle of each top. The tomatoes are scalded, skinned, and the core, when there is any, taken out. They are then pressed into the cans till they are firmly full of tomatoes; not half juice as the factory canning commonly is. The tops are then put in and firmly soldered. The little holes are left open till a dozen or two cans have been soldered. Then the heat generated by the solder having been sufficient to drive out the little air in the can; a drop of solder is put on each little hole and the cans are placed in boiling water to within an inch of the tops, and boiled twenty minutes, when they are ready to be labelled and boxed.

Peaches, pears and all kinds of berries, are put up in the same manner; care being taken to press the fruit in firmly, so that no air may remain. All interstices are filled up with a syrup made by boiling a quarter of a pound of sugar to a pint of water. If a can should contain air, it will signify the fact by blowing its own head off while in the boiling water. When carefully done, not one in a hundred will blow out. Canned fruits and pickles should be kept from all danger of freezing. To preserve dried fruits from worms, put a large handful of sassafras bark to each bushel of fruit. In making jellies, the fruit should not be pared, as the best of the juice is that next the skin.

There will be a large quantity of *juice* left in canning tomatoes. This may be boiled and sealed up in jars or bottles to use in winter for making gravy or soup, or for putting in other soups. It may also be boiled down, seasoned with salt, spices, mustard and vinegar, and make very respectable catsup or sauce.

A wonderful discovery—Kendall's Spavin Cure. Read advertisement.

LIVE STOCK REGISTER.

Our Frontispiece.

We give a beautiful picture, from life, of those remarkable Berkshire Hogs, from the celebrated herd of Mr. A. M. Fulford, of Belair, Harford Co., Md. This picture has never before been published, and we are gratified to be able to have its first appearance made in the Maryland Farmer.

In giving to our readers the handsome illustrations of some of Mr. Fulford's Berkshires, we deem it proper to say something of his herd, and we cannot do it better or convey a better idea of his extensive enterprise and the skill with which he manages his large herd than quoting from the Belair *Ægis* a portion of the report of the Deer Creek Farmers' Club meeting of last August:

"Messrs. Archer, Moores and Rogers were appointed to examine and report upon the condition of Mr. Fulford's stock and premises. All the members present accompanied them in their visit around the farm, and all expressed their admiration of Mr. Fulford's stock, especially of his Berkshires. Upon the re-assembling of the club, Mr. Archer said the club had seen the finest lot of hogs in the State. Mr. Fulford attends to them well, feeds them well, but not in a fancy manner. Almost any plain, practical farmer could do the same,

Mr. Moores said the club could not give Mr. Fulford too much credit for his Berkshire hogs. They were the best, not only in the State, but in the country. Mr. Fulford had exhibited them in nine States and had taken prizes in each. No better Berkshires can be found even in England. Mr. Fulford had also done more, by means of his fine hogs, to make Harford County known, than any other man in it.

Mr. Fulford has about 150 Berkshire swine, of the best strains in Europe and America. His herd embraces such animals as Smythe-to-Wit, "a fine old English gentleman." Lady Plymouth I, II and III., which were also imported from England and were prize winners at the Centennial; Robin

Hood, Lady Hood, Disraeli, Shakspea &c. Every pen contained animals which were perfect types of Berkshires and a of them would make prize winners. We do not suppose a finer collection of swine of this breed could be found in the two continents. Besides Berkshire hogs, the breeding of which is a specialty with Mr. Fulford, he also has thoroughbred Ayrshire and Jersey cattle. Pekin ducks, Plymouth Rock chickens and bronze turkeys—all of them of the purest strains.

Mr. Fulford gave the club some statistics in regard to the gain of some of his hogs, during certain periods, and stated that at the last weighing he had observed a falling off in the amount of gain. During that period he had been feeding upon white corn instead of yellow. The following statistics will show the total and the individual average gain in weight of eight pigs, during several months.

April 21st—Eight pigs had gained 516 lbs. Average per day, 1 lb. 9½ oz. Highest individual average, 1 lb. 9¾ oz.; lowest, 1½ oz.

May 10th—Eight pigs in nineteen days gained 254 lbs. Average per day, 1 lb. 1½ oz. Highest individual average per day, 2 lb. 6½ oz. Lowest, 1 lb.

May 20th—Eight pigs in nineteen days gained 264 lbs. Average, 1 lb. 11¾ oz. Highest individual average per day, 2 lbs. 2½ oz. Lowest, 1 lb. 4¼ oz.

June 16th—Eight pigs in eighteen days gained 288 lbs. Average per day, 1 lb. 9½ oz. Highest individual average, 1 lb. 14¾ oz. Lowest, 12½ oz.

July 18th—Eight pigs in 32 days gained 284 lbs. Average per day, 1 lb. 1½ oz. Highest individual average, 1 lb. 7½ oz. Lowest, 11½ oz.

August 5th—Eight pigs in eighteen days gained 143 lbs. Average per day, 15¾ oz. Highest individual average per day, 1 lb. 6½ oz. Lowest, 7½ oz.

Mr. Fulford regretted that some choice Berkshires, selected and purchased for him by his agent in England, had not arrived in time to show to the club. The delay was caused by difficulty in obtaining transportation, every steamer being crowded with emigrants for this country. They are expected to arrive on the 20th inst."

Get your friends to subscribe for the MARYLAND FARMER.

For the Maryland Farmer.

Shepherd Dogs.

There is scarcely any breed of animals which has come into favorable notice as rapidly as have the shepherd dogs, particularly the kind known as the "Scotch Collie," within the last two or three years, and there are none which are more deserving of the attention of all who wish an animal which is the perfection of intelligence, sagacity and usefulness. Farmers and drovers find them almost indispensable in assisting them in herding, driving or attending to their flocks and herds, whether large or small; the butcher finds he cannot well do without them, as they are far more useful and reliable, when once well trained for their work, than any helper of the human species which they could hire; their qualities as superior watch dogs are fully appreciated by all who have ever owned them, while they are coming into favorable notice as pet animals, on suburban as well as city homes, their beauty and intelligence commending them for this purpose as well.

So long have they been carefully bred and trained for their herding qualities, it has become an inherent trait, a well bred specimen taking to handling stock as naturally as a well bred setter dog takes to hunting, though they must, like any other breed, be worked or trained, to show them how you wish them to do your particular work, and to obey your words, signs and commands.

The rough haired collie, a well bred and well developed specimen, should measure from 18 to 22 inches high at the shoulder, when fully matured, the average height being twenty inches. They should have well developed foreheads, bright clear cut eyes, set well apart; the nose should be only of moderate length and not too pointed; the ears should be fine, of medium size and carried with a "half-lop" when excited, and not carried "prick" or upright. A heavy, slouchy ear denotes poor breeding. The back should be broad, rather square, the breast full and deep, and the body shapely and not too deep. The legs should be strong and muscular, the feet large, flat and cat-like. The hair of the body should be heavy, either straight or wavy (not curly), with a heavy, pily undercoat, the hair in "frill"

or collar being longer and fuller than elsewhere, the hair on face being short and smooth. The "brush pans" (rear of hind legs) should be heavily haired, and the "feathering" on rear of front legs well developed. The tail should be well haired, in some specimens being very heavy and well haired. During excitement they carry their tail well up over the back, but not curled *against* the back, like the spitz.

E. J.R.

Another Lot of Kentucky Short-Horns.

Mr. E. B. Emory has lately received at Poplar Grove Stock Farm, Queen Anne's County, Md., from Kentucky, a superior lot of Short-Horns, selected by himself in Kentucky from the celebrated herds of the Hamiltons, of Flat Creek, the Hamilton and Vanmeter herd, of Sycamore Place, and the Lynwood herd of Messrs. Muir & Pierce. They are a choice lot, of individual excellence and very choicely bred. The 2-year old bull, Kirklevington Lad 39528, A. H. B., is now the choicest bred Bates' bull in Maryland; dam, imported Kirklevington Lady 3d; sire, 3458 8th Duke of Geneva (28390). Kirklevington Lady's three daughters brought at public sale, on the 27th of July, 1881, \$1025 a calf, \$1705 a yearling a \$1515 a 3-year-old. Cambridge Rose 3d, a pure Rose of Sharon cow and a show cow, a direct descendant from the illustrious Abram Renick herd—three of this family were sold at public sale on the 28th of July, 1881, at \$1680, \$2000 and \$3000 respectively. Miss Renick Rosette 3d, Miss Renick Royal, Miss Renick Roxubee 3d and Miss Renick Royalty are Duke topped descendants of Imp. Josephine, one of the most celebrated cows ever brought to America. Barrington Bates 12th, a Flat Creek Mary, by the 20th Duke of Airdrie; Poppy Lewis 3d, a young Phyllis, by a pure Rose of Sharon, Poppy's Duke; Bell of Lynwood, of the Red Rose family, a direct descendant from the old Brampton cow, a great prize winner, bred by R. Colling, England; Geneva Rose, a "Harriet," topped by the 4676 Airdrie 13th 34333; Lady Languish, a prize cow, by the 1833 7th Earle of Oxford 9985, a descendant of Lydia Languish, an imported cow of much note; Garcia, a

descendant of Imp. Galatia, by 4690 Airdrie of Grovehill 31608; and last, Miss Wilda, by the 20th Duke of Airdrie 13872, a descendant of Imp. Miss Hudson, a family highly prized by Mr. Alexander, of Ky. These choice cattle cost Mr. Emory a large sum of money, but his motto is "purity of blood combined with individual excellence." Any one will be fully repaid by a visit to Poplar Grove to inspect the fine stock collected and bred there, and it is a pleasure to Mr. Emory to show his stock, of which he has a just right to be proud.

Herefords and Short-Horns Compared.

Is it not worth while to consider whether or not the very high estimation in which Short-horns have for many years been held has not in itself been a means of causing real deterioration in the breed? The old breeders—the men who made the reputation of the Short-horns—used the knife remorselessly, making steers of a large proportion of the bull calves that were born in the world, and keeping only the best for the purpose of reproduction. In this they were wise; and so long as this policy was continued the breed continued to improve. But, when the demand for Short-horns became so great that every bull calf of the breed that was dropped was kept for breeding purposes, without regard to individual merit, then came the period of real dander, and then commenced that degeneration which is inevitable whenever any breed attains to such a degree of popularity. It is only by selection of the best that a breed can attain excellence, and it is only by an adherence to this practice that excellence once attained can be retained. While the Short-horns have been basking in a sunshine of popularity that has been positively injurious, and which has, beyond a doubt, lowered the average merit of the breed, the Herefords have had an up-hill road. Until quite recently, there has been but little demand for breeding stock of this blood, and nothing could be done with nine out of ten of the bull calves produced but to make steers of them, and convert them into beef. As a matter of course under such circumstances, only the best were used for the purpose of perpetuating the breed, and, of course, so long as

this state of things lasted, constant improvement was effected. The universal popularity of the Short-horn was the Hereford's opportunity; and how well that opportunity has been improved those who knew the average Hereford of twenty-five years ago, and will compare him with the average Hereford of to-day, can testify. But it is a game of "see-saw," and now that the shoe is virtually on the other foot, the deterioration of the Hereford is inevitable, unless they take counsel from the experience of others and forego present profit for the sake of keeping up permanently the reputation of the breed, which is not at all probable. Men have always been prone to kill the goose that lays the golden eggs, and Hereford breeders will be no wiser for the mistake of their rivals. —*National Live-Stock Journal, Chicago.*

Improve the Stock.

There is no more important lesson taught by the drouth than the necessity, in a great part of the country, for an improvement in the quality of the live stock. Many a farmer—careless of the quality of his cattle—finds himself stocked with consuming numbers instead of with fewer good cattle. The scrubs will require so much forage—brute for brute—as the good ones, and the farm has not produced it. He must sell a portion, or in the end of the next winter starve the whole. If his investment had been a lesser number of thorough bloods or high grades, he could winter them and reap the profits which must come to the farmer who has good stock ripe for the next year's trade. He must sell half-fatted stock in a market already crowded with that class of stock, and the result will be a breaking down of prices for drouth cattle.

Let farmers profit by the lesson of drouth, and raise better cattle. Good Shorthorn bulls and cows can be bought on favorable terms. It will not be necessary to go into the fancy for the purposes named. We do not write this expecting farmers in the dry regions to purchase Shorthorns in this, the day of their extremity, but when brighter skies and greener days are our portion; then perhaps, will this advice be repeated, and this lesson of the drouth be referred to.—*Farmer's Home Journal,*

SALE OF THOROUGHBREDS.—At the sale of the live stock of the late H. P. McGrath, near Lexington, Ky., South-down sheep sold at an average of about \$12 per head. Forty-four thoroughbred horses aggregated \$31,490, at the following leading prices: Tom Bowling, bought by Charles J. Ford, of New York, for \$880; Aristides, A. L. Hawkins, Chicago, \$3,400; Jury, Charles Reid, Long Branch, \$3,000; Susan Ann, P. Lorillard, New York, \$6,500; Wissahickon, Charles Reid, \$400; Mary Ann, Charles Reid, \$1,600; Eliza Adams, William Cottrell, Mobile, \$1,050; Henlopen, Charles Reid, \$200. The sum of \$55,000 was offered privately for the farm of 416 acres and refused by the executors.

The Perfect Sheep.

Constitution will be given first place in the list of requisites to the perfect sheep. Without this sheet anchor to success the breeder's efforts will be in vain. It is the foundation without which the fabric cannot stand. Without the strength of bone and muscle that will enable it to procure food, under average circumstances, or lacking the vigor and form of vital force for properly assimilating such food when obtained, all efforts at improvement will be in vain. Constitution, with the rotundity of outline and completeness of detail in presence implies, is an essential to every successful effort at improvement, which the breeder must keep in mind as certainly as the architect must observe the laws of gravitation. DR. RANDALL is credited with saying that there were three essentials to a good sheep: first, constitution; second, *constitution*; third, CONSTITUTION; and no man knew better than he what a sheep ought to be.

From this common centre, whereon all counsellors will be found standing, many paths have been trod, many achievements secured. Size of body, number and character of wrinkles, weight of fleece, and peculiarity of its fibre, have each, at the hands of some breeder, received such special cultivation, as to force them into even abnormal development. Variations in these directions have found warrant in widely different and often-changing circumstances surrounding breeders. Localities with a sparse vegetation suggest the

cultivation of lithe and easily kept animals, upon which the daily task of grazing from "sun to sun" leaves no ill-effects; while in regions of luxuriant grass and grain are to be found those heavy bodies and fleeces which are at once the wonder and admiration of the observer and the breeder. At some point within the range of these extremes, the most fastidious are enabled to find sheep suited to their fancy, or so nearly approaching that standard, as to enable them to reach it by a few years of intelligent effort. And right worthily have these wrought, as the many and magnificent achievements in establishing varieties bear abundant testimony. Given their present vantage ground, that their unflinching skill and untiring energy can safely be depended upon for still further achievements, there is every reason for believing.—*National Live-Stock Journal, Chicago.*

ONE of the advantages of keeping sheep is that qualities of lands and crops can be utilized by them, which otherwise would be comparatively profitless. While they are among the most profitable stock, they actually improve the soil, so that more grass and more money are realized with less labor. A writer remarks, a pound of mutton can be raised as cheap as a pound of beef or pork, and is worth equally as much in the market, and the wool is extra profit. Use thoroughbred males of any of the popular breeds, and in a few years your sheep will be a source of pride as well as profit.—*Ex.*

To persons disposed to take advantage of the advertisement of Messrs. Whitman and Burrell, Little Falls, N. Y., would do well to request their grocers to send to the same for sample vials of their prepared Rennet and Butter Color, of which they liberally give free, one dozen vials to any responsible party, by way of trial, which is strong evidence of their faith in the worth of the articles they offer to the public.

It will be seen by the advertisement of Mr. Legg, in this number of the MARYLAND FARMER that he offers some of his fine ewes, in lamb to his splendid imported buck, at such low prices as must command their ready sale. Mr. Legg's flock of Cotswolds has a reputation second to none in this country. Our farmers should remember the rule "first come, first served."

For the Maryland Farmer.

Natural Grasses for Stock.

Dairymen, as a rule, who keep quite large herds of cows, whether for milk or butter, endeavor to have a part of their farm set to natural grasses, and by caring well for it and properly manuring it, keep it in good growth for many years. Where the dairymen rent their farms, or have uncertain leases on them, it is scarcely advisable or desirable to have permanent pastures, as much more immediate profit can be secured from the cultivated grasses. Where the farms are small, too, it cannot well be done, as each field must be alternately put under by the plow, to keep up the succession of crops, and secure all the profit there is in the place by frequent and constant cropping.

These natural grasses may not pay the average dairyman, who depends upon his milk alone for his profits, for perhaps an equal or greater flow of milk can, no doubt, be secured from the ranker growing cultivated grasses; but the butter dairymen, he who strives to secure the very highest market prices for all he can produce by sending into the market only the very choicest quality of butter, will find it to pay well to have a number of acres of his farm well set to natural grasses, and use care to keep it regularly well manured and free from weeds. When thus treated it will last for many years, one pasture of this kind which we know of, in Chester County, Pennsylvania, being over thirty years old, never having been plowed or cultivated within that time, and yet it affords fine pasture for the numerous choice animals which its owner has. He, however, takes care not to ruin it by pasturing it too hard or close, and lets it rest frequently, and considers this field the best on his very fine farm; the cows, too, seeming to be of the same opinion, preferring the natural grasses to the cultivated ones. Under his careful system of management, this field affords the very earliest, as well as the latest pasturage for his cows. The grass, while it does not grow so rank or heavy as do the cultivated grasses, is richer, and seems to supply just what is needed to help in producing a butter of very superior quality, commanding the highest market price, the demand invariably being ahead of the supply, though he has about an

hundred fine cows, mostly thoroughbred Jerseys and Guernseys in his herd.

We should be pleased to have the views of other butter makers on this subject, for it is one of considerable importance, if it has the decided effect of improving the quality of butter in the degree claimed for it.
E. J. R.

Wheat Bran as a Fertilizer.

Last year, we advised our farmers to experiment with wheat bran as a fertilizer for the small grain crops. Knowing that Mr. Cassard of Birmingham Manor, Prince George's county, Md., had done so, we wrote him a note and the following is his reply, dated 21st September, 1881.

"In accordance with a suggestion in your valuable book, I purchased 500 lbs. of bran, at a cost of five dollars, and spread in upon what I supposed to be the poorest knoll, $\frac{1}{4}$ acre, in my field, and then sowed broadcast, one-half bushel rye, and in the spring sowed clover on the rye. The result was that I got off the one-quarter of an acre, 5 bus. 1 peck of rye, and an excellent extra yield of straw, besides a first class set of clover. On better land, adjoining, with 200 lbs. of bone to the acre, I only got five bushels of rye to the acre and no clover set, although the land had a better opportunity. With the use of the bran I got 21 bushels to the acre—with bone, only 5 bushels.

I am a strong advocate of bran and propose to try it on a larger scale this fall. The one-fourth acre of rye was sown 20th October. Ground plowed, rye sowed and harrowed in.

My opinion is that wheat bran as a fertilizer is superior to anything that I have ever tried, and will produce better and more lasting results, at a low price than anything now in use. I omitted to say that the one-fourth acre was somewhat washed by heavy rains, and had it have had the advantage of a better locality, would have shown a much better result. I have taken pains to send you the exact result of my experiment, which was extremely satisfactory to me."

Yours truly,

J. D. CASSARD.

Domestic Recipes.

BRAN BATHS.—Many persons find an occasional bran bath greatly improves the condition of the skin. The French women find it leaves their dark, clear flesh as soft as a baby's. A peck of common bran to be had at any of the feed stores, is stirred into a tub of warm water. The rubbing of the scaly particles of the bran cleanses the skin, while the gluten in it, softens and strengthens the tissues. The friction of the loose bran calls the blood to the surface, and nervous and irritable people find a special benefit from it for their minds as well as their bodies. Physicians say the habitual use of soap turns the skin brown, and recommend a little oatmeal in the water, or the ammonia suggested above. Ladies who have moist or oily skins should use quite hot water for their baths, and a little fine bay rum rubbed over the face, or a little of any of the fine toilet waters. A tablespoonful in the wash-bowl of water prevents that shiny appearance of the skin which is so annoying.

SWEET PICKLES.—Take small cucumbers, (the quantity to be regulated by what is required,) say a two-gallon stone jar, filled; after washing in cold water place the pickles in the jar and have ready two gallons of boiling water, with two quarts of salt boiled in it; pour this over the cucumbers and let them stand twenty-four hours; wash them out of the salt water and let them stand to drain; wash out the jar and place the cucumbers in it again; take six quarts of cider vinegar and place it on the stove, together with three pounds of brown sugar, one ounce of celery seed, one ounce of whole cloves and the same of allspice, or with only the celery seed; when this comes to a boiling point, pour it over the cucumbers and cover, while hot, with a cabbage leaf; tie a cloth over the top of the jar and put on the cover; the pickles will be fit for use in three days, and will keep two years if the vinegar is good.

WATER PUDDING.—Ingredients: water, eight tablespoonsful; lemon, one tablespoonful; sugar, quarter pound; butter, quarter pound and four eggs. Grate the rind and squeeze out the juice of the lemon; beat the eggs, yolk and whites separately. Mix all together and bake one hour in a slow oven.

CHOW-CHOW.—Half a bushel of green tomatoes, one dozen medium sized onions, one dozen green peppers, all chopped fine. Sprinkle over a pint of salt. Let stand all night and then drain off the brine, cover with good vinegar and cook one hour slowly. Drain again and pack in a jar. Then place in your preserve kettle, two pounds of brown sugar, two tablespoonsful of cinnamon, one of allspice, one each of cloves and pepper, half a cup of ground mustard and a pint of grated horse-radish, with vinegar enough to mix them thoroughly. Boil for half an hour and pour out at once over the mixture in the jar. Cover tight and it is ready for use, but will keep over a year if you are not tempted to use it before that time. It is a good deal of work to chop fine enough with knife and bowl, but I suppose many of my readers have thoughtful husbands who provide them with a mincing machine.

New Advertisements.

H. S. ANDERSON.—Grapes, Strawberry Plants and Nursery Stock.

J. N. VICTOR.—Cheap Horses for all.
SMITH & POWELL.—Thoroughbred Horses.

“ “ —Nursery Stock.

P. K. DEDERICK.—Machinery, &c.

H. H. WARNER & Co.—Kidney Wort.

CHAS. KEY.—Cards, &c.

ISAAC F. TILLINGHAST.—Seeds and Plants.

N. C. FITZGARRALD.—Pensions.

JOHNSON & Co.—Chicken Powders.

P. G. CHILDS.—Catarrh cured.

GARMORE & Co.—Artificial Ear Drums.

WHITMAN & BURRELL.—Butter Color.

GEO. PAGE & Co.—Saw Mills.

CLINTON & Co.—Cards, &c.

WM. PARRY.—Hybrid Pears.

O. MARSHALL.—History of Garfield.

D. Z. EVANS.—Sheep Dogs.

E. P. ROE.—Strawberry Plants.

ED. C. LEGG, Cotswold Sheep.

B. J. KENDALL & Co.—Spavin Cure.

R. S. COLE.—Strawberry Plants.

MARYLAND STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—Exhibition.

J. C. McCURDY & Co.—History of James A. Garfield.

E. S. CHILDS.—Farm and Garden.

H. W. DOUGLAS.—The Methodist.

THE CHICAGO WEEKLY NEWS.